

# HA HA TONKA STATE PARK

## *PREAMBLE & MISSION STATEMENT*

February 2024

### **HISTORY AND SIGNIFICANCE:**

The area that now makes up Ha Ha Tonka State Park contains a wide mixture of significant natural and man-made features. The park is a geologic wonderland featuring several notable caves, sink holes, natural bridge, and the 12<sup>th</sup> largest spring in Missouri. The ruins of a turn-of-the-century stone castle overlook these wonders and offer impressive views of the Lake of the Ozarks and Ha Ha Tonka Spring.

The landscape of Ha Ha Tonka State Park is comprised of woodland and glade communities, which are restored and maintained by prescribed fire and other stewardship programs. These dominant communities and the high quality native flora attract researchers and visitors desiring to witness the splendor of the historic woodland character that once existed across the Ozarks. Geologically, this park is defined by a number of natural karst features containing chasms, underground streams, caves, and a natural bridge. Several large caves can be found on site and serve as critical habitat for the federally endangered gray bat (*Myotis grisescens*). Of which, only a select few are accessible to the public for interpretation. Additionally, several notable sink holes containing rare flora and fauna can be found across the landscape. However, one of the most impressive karst features found in the park is Ha Ha Tonka Spring, Missouri's 12<sup>th</sup> largest spring which discharges over 48 million gallons of water per day.

The cultural history of this land and its remarkable beauty reaches back to the Native American tribes that once inhabited it. Modern descendants of these tribes, like the Osage Nation, still consider the park to be a sacred landscape. While the first permanent residence on the property was recorded in 1830, it wasn't until the turn of the next century when Robert McClure Snyder, a Kansas City resident, would purchase 2,500 acres of the local property on which to construct an estate. This estate would go on to feature a water tower, several greenhouses, stables and most notably a three and a half story, 60 room, European-styled mansion. Unfortunately, Snyder was involved in a fatal car crash in 1906 and would never see the project completed. With his vision in mind, Robert's sons continued with the estates development. The mansion was completed in 1922, although not quite as elaborately as originally planned. However, this mansion would be fairly short lived, as much of it was destroyed by fire in 1942, leaving only the stonework walls that supported the structure. Following this fire, the property would change hands a few times until the Missouri Department of Natural Resources acquired the land in 1978.

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

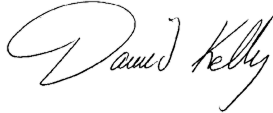
The mission of Ha Ha Tonka State Park is to protect, preserve, and interpret the unique natural and cultural resources the park offers, and foster appreciation for the significance of these resources by providing compatible outdoor recreation opportunities and interpretive programming.

# HA HA TONKA STATE PARK

## *PREAMBLE & MISSION STATEMENT*

February 2024

### APPROVED BY:



**David Kelly**  
Director, Missouri State Parks

*02/28/24*

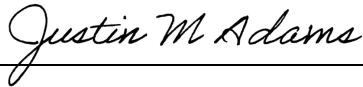
**Date**



**Terry Bruns**  
Program Director, Planning and Development

*02/21/2024*

**Date**



**Justin Adams**  
Regional Director, Ozarks Region

*02/21/2024*

**Date**



**Adam Enboden**  
Deputy Regional Director, Ozarks Region

*02/22/24*


**Date**



**Brian Miller**  
Park Superintendent / South Central Management Unit

*02/21/2024*

**Date**



**Luke Johnson**  
Park Superintendent

*2/21/2024*

**Date**

# **HA HA TONKA STATE PARK**

## ***CONCEPTUAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN***

**February 2024**

**Location:** Camden County  
**Established:** 1978  
**Size:** 3,751.74 Acres

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of Ha Ha Tonka State Park is to protect, preserve, and interpret the unique natural and cultural resources the park offers, and foster appreciation for the significance of these resources by providing compatible outdoor recreation opportunities and interpretive programming.

### **INTRODUCTION**

Located in south central Camden County, five miles south of Camdenton, Ha Ha Tonka State contains a wide mixture of significant natural and man-made features. The park is a geologic wonderland featuring several notable caves, sink holes, natural bridge, and the 12th largest spring in Missouri. Ha Ha Tonka State Park contains over 3,000 acres of designated Natural Areas and is home to woodland and glade communities encompassing high quality native flora, attracting park visitors and researchers alike. Remnants of a turn-of-the-century European-style stone castle overlooks Lake of the Ozarks and Ha Ha Tonka Spring and is also a popular attraction for many visitors. The park offers 19.9 miles of hiking trails, 13.4 miles of paddle trails, backcountry camping, fishing, picnicking, interpretive programming and other recreational opportunities.

### **SITE GOALS**

- Preserve the unique natural and cultural resources located within the park's boundaries;
- Provide recreational opportunities and public use facilities compatible with the park's mission, resources, and public needs;
- Provide interpretive programming to enhance visitor experience;
- Provide administrative support facilities to ensure successful operation and maintenance of the park.

### **INTERPRETIVE THEMES**

- Geologic and Karst Features
  - Caves, sinkholes, natural bridge, and Ha Ha Tonka Spring
- Woodland and Glade Communities
  - Natural resource management and restoration
- Native Flora and Fauna

- Rare and federally endangered species
- Pre-Contact History
  - Osage Indians and their ancestors
- Settlers and Explorers in the Early 1800s
  - Early homesteads and mills
    - 1830 Garland gristmill.
- Robert M. Snyder Family History
  - Private estate and development history
    - Missouri's first automobile accident
    - 1922 Castle
    - Fire of 1942

## SITE STRUCTURES

<b><u>Structure</u></b>	<b><u>Sqft</u></b>	<b><u>Const. Date</u></b>	<b><u>Historic</u></b>
Vault Toilet - Spring Trail Parking Lot	125	7/19/2022	-
Well House	100	12/31/1992	-
Service Building	1,400	12/31/1979	-
Visitor Center	3,034	11/11/1997	-
Vault Toilet - Castle Parking Lot	128	12/31/1995	-
Shelter - Spring Trail	840	12/31/1982	-
Vault Toilet - Post Office Day Use	96	12/31/1990	-
Vault Toilet - Special Use Area	96	12/31/1988	-
Vault Toilet – Lake Day Use Area	96	12/31/1988	-
Collins House	1,920	-	-
Residence	2,954	12/31/1977	-
Shelter - Lake Day Use Area	840	12/31/1988	-
Shelter - Post Office Day Use	1,475	12/31/1990	-
Maintenance Shop	1,152	6/4/1989	-
Post Office	1,470	1/2/1872	Yes
Barn - Collins House	2,784	-	-
Old Horse Barn - Service Area	1,800	-	-
Interpretative Shelter	3,600	11/11/1997	-

## USE AREAS & DEVELOPMENT

Ha Ha Tonka State Park's development should complement the preservation and interpretation of the park's significant natural and man-made features. Furthermore, development should enhance accessibility and connectivity to these features while supporting a variety of day-use activities.

### 1. Expand Visitor Center

The Visitor Center is to be expanded for added retail, storage, and meeting/office space, and to enhance the flow of foot traffic through the building. The addition of an indoor restroom should be considered.

**2. Expand Visitor Center Parking & Construct Connector Trail**

Parking at the Visitor Center is to be expanded to accommodate increased visitation. In addition, a trail is to be constructed through the waterline-cut connecting the Visitor Center to the park's trail network and/or Castle Ruins Day-Use Area. This will ensure visitors no longer have to walk along Highway D.

**3. Improve Castle Ruins Day-Use Area**

Basic amenities in the Castle Ruins Day-Use Area are to be improved, such as new and/or additional picnic tables and benches, while also furnishing flush restrooms at the Castle Trail trailhead. Flush restrooms in this area will require water and wastewater infrastructure improvements. Lastly, the parking lot is to be improved by filling in the difficult to maintain vegetated islands, increasing parking capacity through redesign and/or enlargement, and improving traffic flow through the lot.

**4. Repair River Cave Day-Use Area, Overlook, & Trail**

The existing River Cave Day-Use Area is to be repaired, improved, and opened for public use. This area will provide access to the River Cave Overlook and Dolomite Rock Trail. The overlook is to be stabilized/rehabilitated and will include appropriate interpretation. Lastly, the old Dolomite Rock Trail is to be reclaimed and opened for public use and enjoyment.

**5. Stabilize Castle Ruins**

The Castle Ruins are to be stabilized to ensure visitors can safely interact with this interpretive area. In addition, opportunities to enhance scenic views from the area should be assessed.

**6. Develop Volunteer Host Accommodations**

To accommodate volunteer hosts that will monitor and maintain backpack campsites and assist with interpretive programming/day-use activities, a dedicated host site is to be developed in the Service Area.

**7. Establish Backpack Campsites**

Approximately 6 dispersed backpack campsites are to be established in the southwest tree-line of Collins Farm, near Turkey Pen Hollow Trail. This will eliminate the need of the existing sites within the designated Ha Ha Tonka Oak Woodland Natural Area. These backpack campsites are to be reservable in RS2.

**8. Construct Seasonal Housing**

To accommodate seasonal team members, new housing is to be constructed at Collins Farm. This structure should be large enough to house crews of up to 20 in a compact, short stay environment. Existing dilapidated structures at Collins Farm will be demolished.

**9. Designate Special Event Area**

A Special Event Area is to be designated at Collins Farm for a variety of outdoor recreation activities such as archery, orienteering and other outdoor classroom opportunities.

## **10. Construct Equipment Storage Shop**

The existing “Old Horse Barn” in the Service Area is beyond repairable. This space would be better utilized for the development of a pull through non-insulated concrete floor shop to house equipment. Additional expansion of the shop complex may be necessary.

### **Special Considerations**

- Public Survey #2 proposed upgrading the Post Office Shelter Restrooms. In consideration of sensitive resources throughout the facility, further development of the Post Office Shelter Day-Use Area should be avoided. This development proposal was withdrawn.
- Public Survey #2 proposed developing an ADA fishing dock alongside the existing boat dock near the Spring Trail trailhead. In consideration of sensitive resources throughout the facility, this proposed development was withdrawn.
- Due to cultural and natural resource concerns throughout the park, surveys and studies may be required before additional development is considered.

## **PROJECT PHASING**

### **1. Phase 1**

- a. Designate Special Event Area
- b. Construct Connector Trail
- c. Repair River Cave Day-Use Area, Overlook, & Trail
- d. Develop Volunteer Host Accommodations
- e. Construct Equipment Storage Shop

### **2. Phase 2**

- a. Establish Backpack Campsites
- b. Expand Visitor Center
- c. Expand Visitor Center Parking

### **3. Phase 3**

- a. Stabilize Castle Ruins
- b. Improve Castle Ruins Day-Use Area
- c. Construct Seasonal Housing

Cultural and natural resource clearances will be required before on-site modifications and development occur.

## **PLANNING AND RESEARCH GOALS**

- Update and/or completion of the park’s General Management Plan.
- Continued documentary research and exploration of the park’s cultural and natural resources

## ACQUISITION UNITS

If offered, acquisition of adjacent property may be pursued only through willing sellers or donors. To be considered, units should enhance the mission of Missouri State Parks through one of the following categories:

- Resource preservation and protection
- Recreational access and opportunity
- Management facilitation

## CONTEXTUAL PLANNING INFORMATION

### Public Input

Public input is an integral part of the CDP process. The following includes input opportunities throughout the planning process:

1. **Public Survey #1, September 21, 2022 – October 20, 2022**
  - a. n = 817
2. **Osage Nation Meeting, July 10, 2023 – 3:30 p.m.**
3. **Public Meeting, July 14, 2023 – 6 p.m.**
  - a. Ha Ha Tonka State Park, Lake Shelter
  - b. Public attendance: 0
4. **Public Survey #2, July 14, 2023 – August 14, 2023**
  - a. n = 688

**Communication methodologies:** Press release, legislative letters, social media posts, [mostateparks.com/CDP](https://mostateparks.com/CDP), email bulletin, and QR business cards/flyer.

### CDP Team Members:

- David Kelly – Division Director
- Brian Stith – Division Deputy Director
- Laura Hendrickson – Division Deputy Director
- Justin Adams – Regional Director, Ozarks Region
- Adam Enboden – Deputy Regional Director, Ozarks Region
- Brian Miller – Park Superintendent / South Central Management Unit
- Luke Johnson – Park Superintendent
- Jacob Bryant – Interpretive Resource Specialist
- Ken McCarty – Natural Resource Program Director
- Allison Vaughn – Natural Resource Ecologist
- Dr. Mike Ohnorsorgen – Cultural Resource Management Program Director
- Kim Dillon – Cultural Resource Management Section Chief
- Justin Bensley - Archeologist
- Terry Bruns – Planning and Development Program Director



- Ryan Dunwoody – Planning Section Chief
- Daniel Engler – Planner
- Rebecca Young – Outdoor Recreation Management Section Chief
- Logan Nuernberger – Trail Coordinator
- Zane Price – Real Estate Manager
- Alison Dubbert – Interpretive Resource Coordinator
- Tisha Holder – Information Officer

## **APPENDIX**


- CDP Map
- Public Survey #1 Results
- Public Survey #2 Results

HA HA TONKA  
STATE PARK

CONCEPTUAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

February 2024

APPROVED BY:



**David Kelly**  
Director, Missouri State Parks

02/28/24

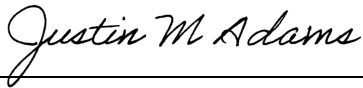
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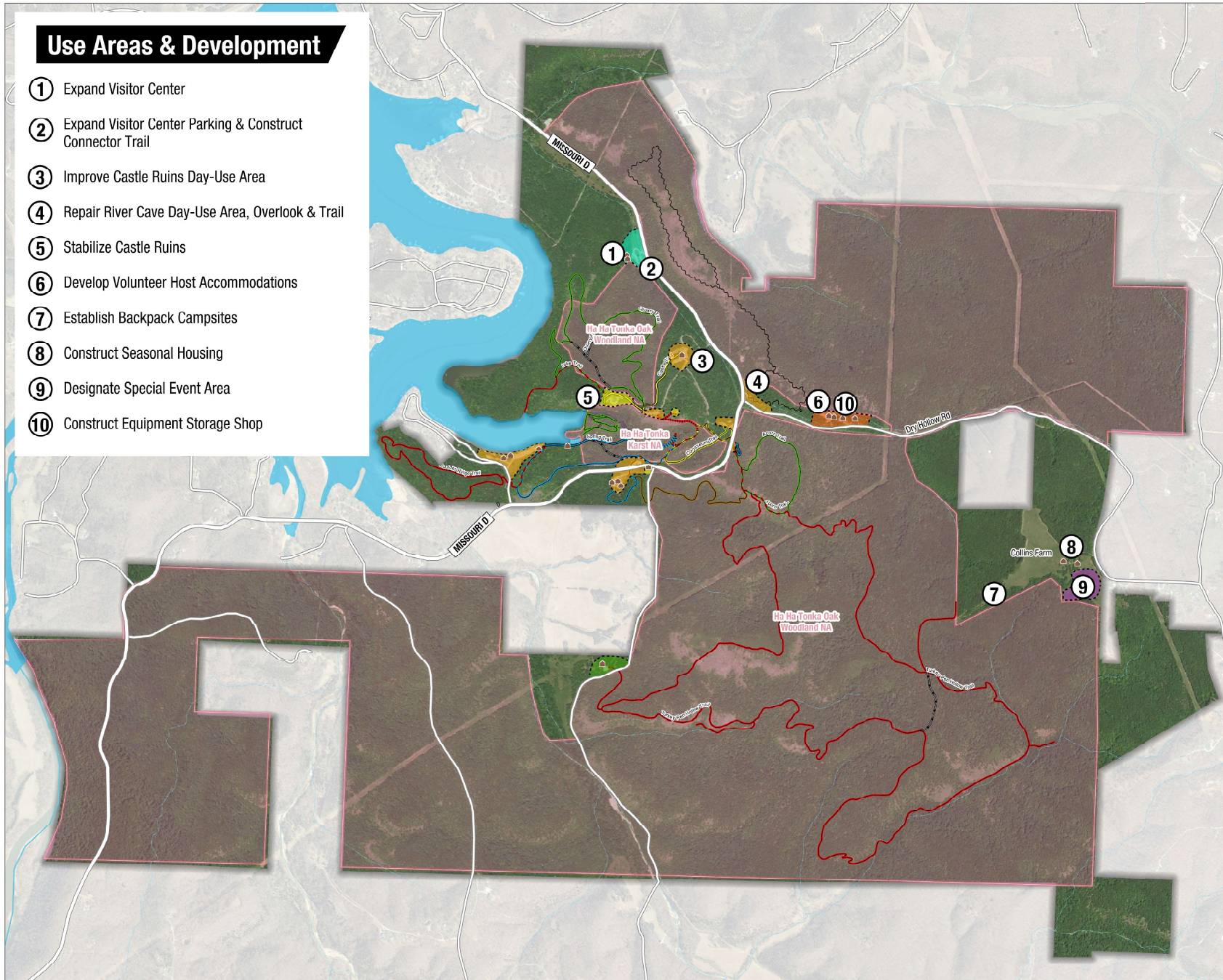
**Luke Johnson**  
Park Superintendent

2/21/2024

Date

## Use Areas & Development

- ① Expand Visitor Center
- ② Expand Visitor Center Parking & Construct Connector Trail
- ③ Improve Castle Ruins Day-Use Area
- ④ Repair River Cave Day-Use Area, Overlook & Trail
- ⑤ Stabilize Castle Ruins
- ⑥ Develop Volunteer Host Accommodations
- ⑦ Establish Backpack Campsites
- ⑧ Construct Seasonal Housing
- ⑨ Designate Special Event Area
- ⑩ Construct Equipment Storage Shop



## HA HA TONKA STATE PARK

Projected Coordinate System:  
NAD 1983, UTM Zone 15N  
Absolute Scale: 1:11,500

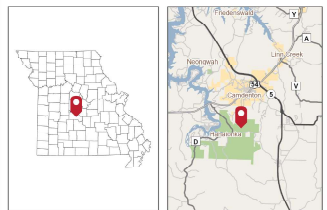


0 0.1 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 Miles

Conceptual Development Plan Date: February 2024

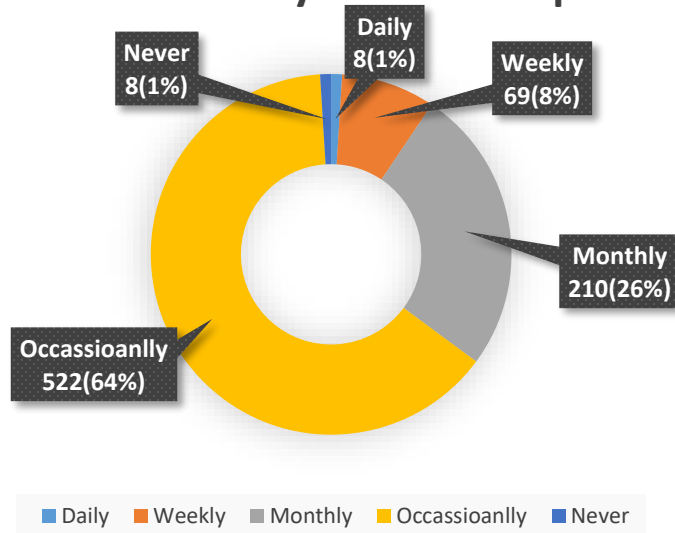
### Legend

Use Areas	Water
<span style="background-color: yellow; border: 1px solid black;"> </span> Day Use Area	<span style="color: blue;">—</span> Waterbody
<span style="background-color: yellow; border: 1px dashed black;"> </span> Interpretive Area	<span style="color: blue;">—</span> Major River
<span style="background-color: orange; border: 1px solid black;"> </span> Service Area	<span style="color: blue;">—</span> Stream
<span style="background-color: green; border: 1px solid black;"> </span> Special Use Area	
<span style="background-color: cyan; border: 1px solid black;"> </span> Visitor Center Area	
<span style="background-color: purple; border: 1px solid black;"> </span> Special Event Area	
Features	
<span style="background-color: pink; border: 1px solid black;"> </span> Natural Area	
<span style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;"> </span> Road	
<span style="color: brown;">●</span> Structure	
	<span style="color: red;">—</span> Turkey Pen Hollow Trail
	<span style="color: red;">—</span> Boulder Ridge Trail
	<span style="color: red;">—</span> Lake Trail
	<span style="color: red;">—</span> Dell Rim Trail
	<span style="color: red;">—</span> Acorn Trail
	<span style="color: red;">—</span> Quarry Trail
	<span style="color: red;">—</span> Island Trail
	<span style="color: red;">—</span> Colosseum Trail
	<span style="color: red;">—</span> Castle Trail
	<span style="color: red;">—</span> Spring Trail
	<span style="color: red;">—</span> Cedar Trail
	<span style="color: red;">—</span> Oak Woodland Int. Trail
	<span style="color: red;">—</span> Devils Kitchen Trail
	<span style="color: red;">—</span> White connector
	<span style="color: red;">—</span> Dolomite Rock Trail (Approx.)

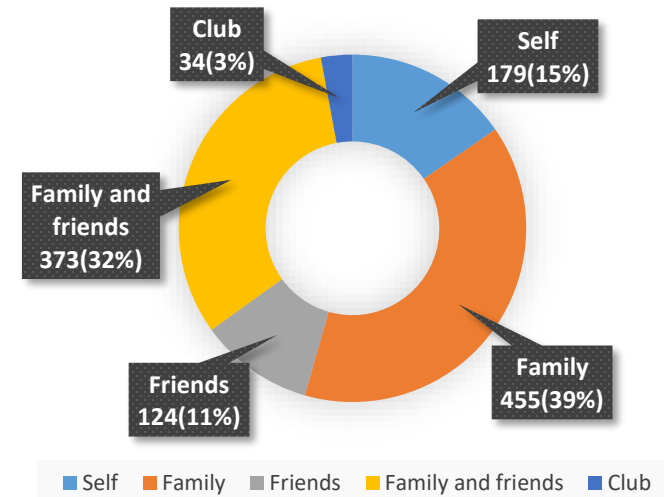


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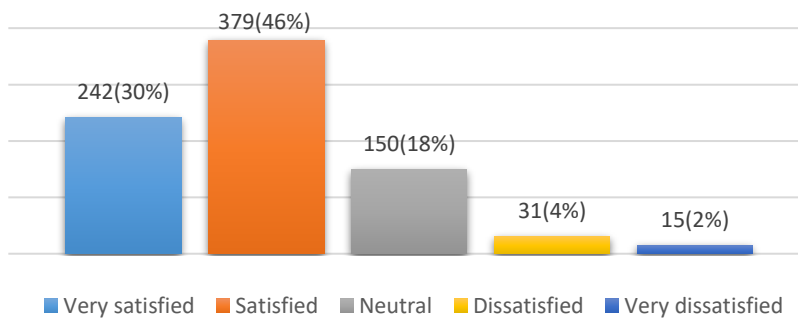
### How Often Do you visit this park?



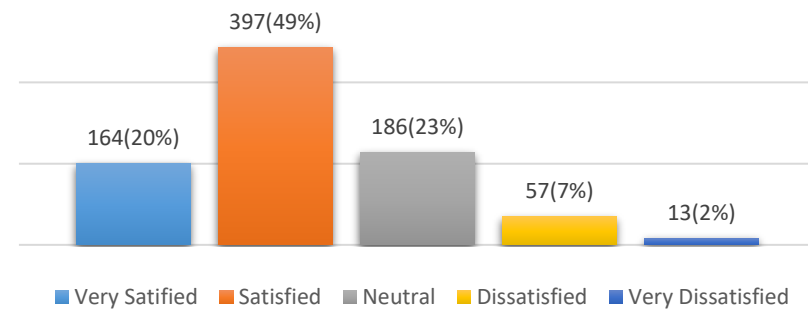
### When you visit this park or historic site, who usually joins you?



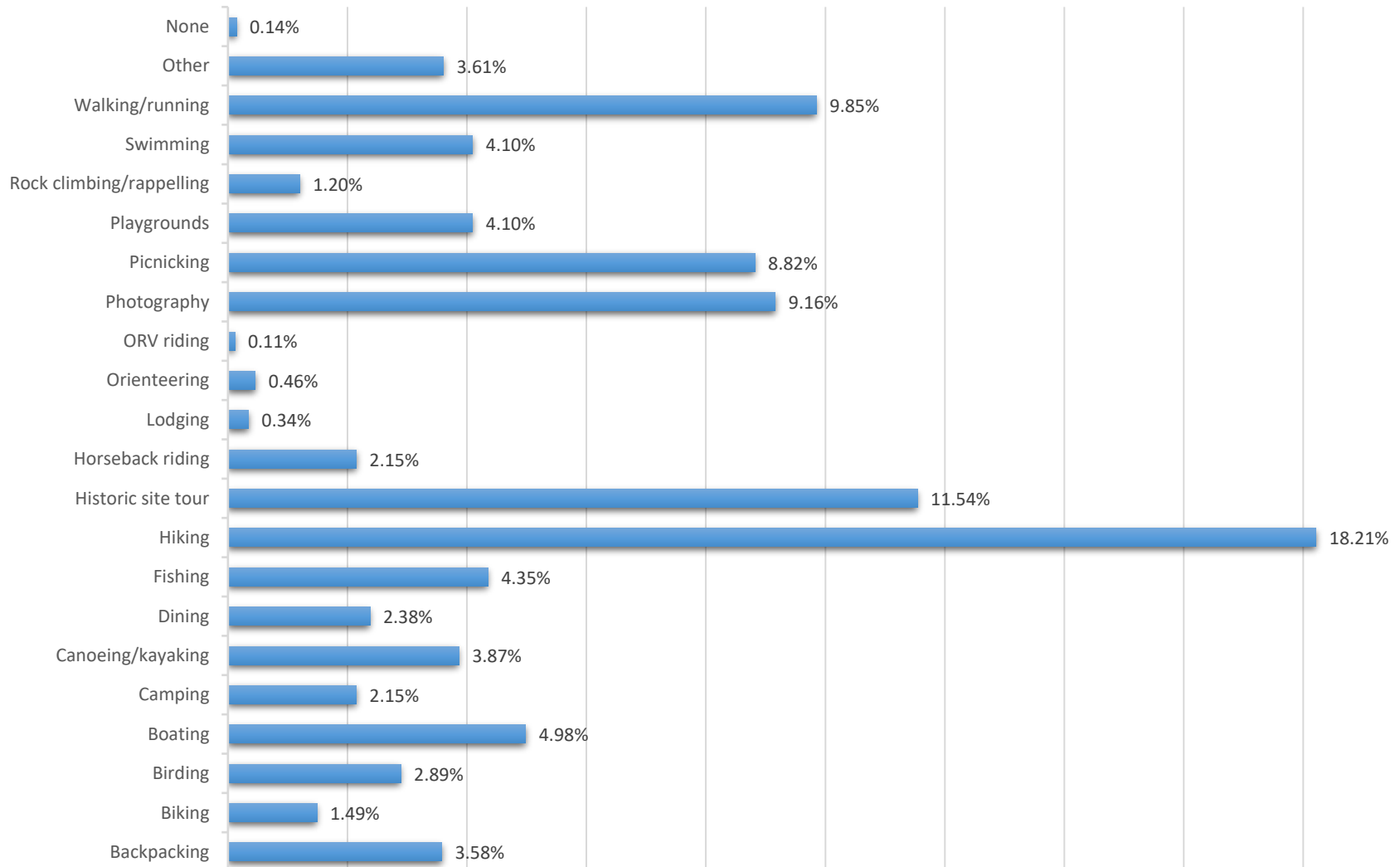
### How satisfied are you with the recreational activities this park or historic site offers?



### How satisfied are you with the infrastructure and amenities this park or historic site offers?



## Which recreational activities are you engaging in during your visit(s)?





**What recreational activity, if any, do you feel is missing and should be added to this park or historic site to enhance the visitor experience?**

1. general camping
2. I'd love it if there was someone there to talk about the history of the house!
3. More history, nature information. More accessible areas/walks. Animals allowed. Better bathrooms.
4. Areas to camp. It would be really nice if there were areas to camp along the lake, or at least near the lake. And not the touristy ones where they're literally on top of each other, enough space between sites to make it actually feel like you're camping in the woods.
5. RV electric camp sites!
6. accessible places for persons with mobility impairments
7. camping
8. camping
9. Camping
10. Bike trails
11. Additional picnic facilities with restrooms.
12. Horse trails
13. A better designated area for swimming, a larger area to picnic and relax and there is no where to camp
14. Gift shop, flea market, zip line
15. More kid friendly activities, enhanced playground (possibly with disability friendly equipment), more trails that are not more than 2 or 3 miles, canoe or kayak rentals
16. Nothing—it is a great park
17. Let people ride tube where the fence used to be ,but charge them and have someone there to make sure it's not just drunks, riding for free or throwing trash out!
18. I'd love to have more history tours, photography lessons, guided hikes.
19. Biking
20. More trails
21. Maybe a ski lift over the lake area and up to the old building sites for older people to see.
22. More children activities
23. More children activities
24. More opportunities for learning about not only the historical aspects of Ha Ha Tonka, but also about the nature of the landscape itself.
25. More mountain biking
26. Bicycle trails
27. More paved trails
28. Needs additional activities but I'm not sure what.
29. Biking
30. I would like to be able to pay a monthly fee and leave my kayak there so i, as a 56 year old women, doesn't have to load and unload every time i want to go kayaking. I would go daily not weekly. I would also like there to be a sandy beach for grandkids.
31. Paddle boat
32. Perfect the way it is
33. More bank fishing areas
34. This is our very favorite park!
35. More bike friendly amenities
36. Concession Stand, restaurant, gift shop, or nature center, picnic dining area, or vending machines.
37. It's nature, just enjoy all it gives. Do try to commercialise it.
38. Historic tours, cave tours
39. Bike trails and camping sites
40. Nearby RV parks with shuttles to and from park and golf carts to rent
41. Touring the inside of the castle
42. Better walk ways along D road for the safety of those coming off trails and back to parking lots too many people walking I. D road and poses a safety risk pedestrians and motorists
43. More playgrounds
44. We need paved bike trails/paths like they have in the Fayetteville area. Study what they have done and do it here.
45. More parking.
46. Playground near the picnic area by the lake

**47.** If you would be able to create a nice restaurant in the park, that would be fantastic. Something rustic looking that blends with the park surrounding. In the meantime, maybe allow a food truck. Ideally, a restaurant like the one at Pere Marquette State Park in Grafton, Illinois, is exceptional.

<https://www.pmlodge.net/restaurant/>

**48.** More docks

**49.** A food truck would be nice.

**50.** Bike Trails, more camping, shower house, a trail to the city of camdenton.

**51.** Beer Garden

**52.** None, don't want it commercialized with more activities.

**53.** Allow climbing at our own risk (bouldering on rocks on the island) please (no chalk use though as it would mark up the rock).

**54.** Biking!!!! Camping!!! More picnic spaces

Look at saylorville near Des Moines

**55.** Open up more trails

**56.** I feel as though there could be some more biking opportunities. The trails are great for hiking, but are very lacking in biking.

**57.** additional swimming options

**58.** Please add more seating and picnic areas near the castle.

**59.** Lodging

**60.** Better trails. Most are not good for older people to walk on. Controlled swimming area

**61.** Boat ramp

**62.** RV Camping

**63.** Camping area would be immediately popular at Ha Ha Tonka.

**64.** Those binoculars like they have on tall buildings on the overlooks by the castle. Since most are coin operated it could add as a source of revenue for the park.

**65.** Water craft Rentals ie: paddle boats, canoes, kayaks ,  
Bikes, Bait for fishing, concession stand or food truck permits, area to ride bikes

**66.** Water craft Rentals ie: paddle boats, canoes, kayaks ,

Bikes, Bait for fishing, concession stand or food truck permits, area to ride bikes

**67.** camping

**68.** let us swim in the spring

**69.** Camping

**70.** Basic camp sites

**71.** Basic camp sites

**72.** Basic camp sites

**73.** Basic camp sites

**74.** Paddle boat rentals

**75.** Nothing...it's perfect...please leave alone...crowds are not terrible

**76.** Could use more hiking trails and/or paved paths.

**77.** Biking

**78.** I feel that if our history, like ha ha Tonka was gone, our kids would miss out on beautiful territory.

**79.** Onsite tour guides that are available for personal tours. (Groups have guides available.)

**80.** Onsite tour guides that are available for personal tours. (Groups have guides available.)

**81.** A tour guided experience. Camping nearby, kayaking, diving, spelunking, atv trails,

**82.** Camping

**83.** More park naturalist guided historic walks. The castle/stable/water tower is one and the quarry is another. The natural arch trail a possible third?

**84.** Being able to get close to the castle. I miss being next to the walls.

**85.** Rustic camping, guided hiking, more picnicking areas, more parking, interpretive history programs more of

**86.** Picnicking , playground

**87.** I think the trails need to be widened and more maintained. Some trails are really well maintained, but some are neglected even though they go through beautiful terrain.

**88.** I miss the cave, that is what first interested me in this park. I understand that diseases the bats are contracting is more important than spelunking though.

**89.** I would like to see more programs such as info on wildlife, geology, native plants, history of the property, fire safety and other fun and interactive programs for all ages. Park rangers available on site with interactive programs or educational talks. Several years ago when our kids were young we attended a Ranger educated evening talk about the stars and constellations. My adult kids remember it to this day.

When we travel to national parks we try to go to as many ranger programs as possible. Our kids earned the junior ranger pin or patch at each one. It taught them so much about what we were seeing. Our favorites were always in the evenings after dark. It was something to look forward to after a long day of sightseeing and something we could do after dinner but before bedtime. After dark programs in the parks can be very interesting.

If nothing else having a “docent” type of knowledgeable person on hand would be nice, just to give insight to the area and answer questions. Maybe a monthly program (like the 1st Saturday of the month) where people were available to ask questions to and offer a short informative talk and then chat time.

**90.** Camping spots

**91.** Camping spots

**92.** informational tours on the site, instead of just reading it from a billboard. horseback riding would be great, i cant ever go to the quarry to look at it because it is to far & i cant walk that far, but if horses were available i could ride to the quarry to be able to see it, fix the building that originally was the stables & put them to use again, it would be wonderful to see what the old stables looked like & be able to use them as well.

**93.** Tent Camping (not RV type)

**94.** Camping, historical reenactments

**95.** Tent only camping no RVs or campers

**96.** More and better docks

**97.** Bike trail

**98.** More cycling options would be good.

**99.** A better swimming experience

**100.** Camping

**101.** None, love that it is not commercialized.

Take a walk in nature. Stroll through the ruins. Enjoy the outdoors- summer, winter, all seasons it is beautiful.

**102.** Splash pad

**103.** You should rebuild the mansion to what it was and give tours.

**104.** I believe measures should be taken to reinforce the masonry of the castle ruins. I have seen several old factory sites tuck pointed and reinforced with wooden/steel beams and decking allowing the public to utilize them safely for gatherings, photos and siteseeing throughout New England. Compare to the scope of those projects, the caste ruins are small! The ruins are a treasure and a huge draw, fencing them off and keeping the public out is wrong. Decking or walkways above the foundation could be easily added. Furthermore, the old porch and overlook should be restored.

**105.** Binoculars at the top to look down in the spring and lake

**106.** Camping

**107.** Camping would be great... and even leaving the gates down by the spring open past dar for the ones that like to night fish would be nice too

**108.** A campground with full hookups would be awesome.

**109.** Castle renovation

**110.** I would like to learn even more about the geology

**111.** Camping

**112.** Disc golf course

**113.** Camping

**114.** Become a registered dark site!

**115.** Camping

**116.** Nothing should be added or taken away. This is my favorite State Park.

**117.** Probably too expensive to do but would be cool to have a fresh spring fed water



- fountain (from the spring) that you could fill up water bottles along the way of your hike since it is 15 miles long
- 118.** Better bathroom facilities
- 119.** None. It's a historic site with great paved and unpaved trails. There's plenty of other parks to mess with, upgrade the public beaches and leave Ha Ha Tonka like it is imo. You can hike and rustic camp. People are uneducated that want glamping, and under appreciate what has been preserved. There's plenty of places to stay near by for the rv and glampers.
- 120.** Camping
- 121.** Camping
- 122.** Mountain Biking has grown in popularity, its slowly moving north from Arkansas. There are funds available thru programs to help with this too.
- 123.** Camping
- 124.** Picnic area
- 125.** Primitive camping
- 126.** Horseback riding
- 127.** More hiking trails w spots to rest/eat at.
- 128.** More hiking trails w spots to rest/eat at.
- 129.** I would love to see guided tours make a comeback of the ruins/history of the area. I remember a few from when I was a child as we were here weekly and I loved learning any tidbits that could be gleaned
- 130.** Campgrounds.
- 131.** Camping would be a nice alternative for everyone who visits the park. The picnic table idea with grill would also be a nice addition.
- 132.** A nice open picnic area, Camping would be nice but only in tent form. RV's and Campers would ruin the vibe.
- 133.** Camping
- 134.** A marina
- 135.** Road/ MTB biking
- 136.** I would love to be able to camp here! It's quite a drive from where I live so we don't go often. If we were able to stay the night we would go more frequently.
- 137.** I would love to be able to camp here! It's quite a drive from where I live so we don't go often. If we were able to stay the night we would go more frequently.
- 138.** Nothing. Ha Ha is fantastic.
- 139.** Nicer bathrooms and more picnic tables
- 140.** Nicer bathrooms and more picnic tables
- 141.** A better swimming area and more picnic area
- 142.** A better picnic area and possibly camping. The informational signs need to be updated.
- 143.** No swimming, boating, or camping.
- 144.** No swimming, boating, or camping.
- 145.** Don't do a thing. We don't want it more commercialized.
- 146.** Self service kayak rentals near the spring, better signage for trail access.
- 147.** A public sand beach near the kayak rentals. Stabilize the castle ruins for a tour or restore the castle into a lodge / museum. Maybe restore the mill and you could make the mill, restored castle, post office and school building educational stops for school aged kids and field trips for schools. Maybe add some remote cabins and allow multi-day educational field trips for schools.
- 148.** I don't remember there being a picnic area at the top of the hill near the ruins. I have small children and tend to pack lunches with us during hikes, it would be nice to have a spot to sit.
- 149.** None-leave as is.
- 150.** Seems to have everything we need
- 151.** Not familiar with the activities
- 152.** We frequent national/state parks and our children enjoy historical information that includes artifacts, and some sort of media (audio/visual) when learning about the site. It nature's it more real for them than just signs with info.
- 153.** Historical talks about the mansion and the era
- 154.** Easy swimming , and camping would be great
- 155.** Coffee shop gift shop at old post office

**156.** We think what's there is great, it maintains the feel of a quiet park without all the extra noise and commotion.

**157.** Camping

**158.** Maintain what is there but do not add camping. It will change the atmosphere.

**159.** More history into the sight and the lore surrounding the castle. Maybe a second building nearby that allows for climbing or walking inside. Maybe a stable, smaller, replica of the castle at its heyday?

**160.** none, it is overcrowded already

**161.** Hiking trails are always good

**162.** I don't feel like anything should be added, it is a fantastic day use site and any additional amenities would take away from the over all experience. I know some people would like to see camping and additional areas, but with that comes the greater issues of trash collection or potential for abuse of the sites. The main draw of this park is the natural beauty and lack of development in the sight with the focus being on the trails and interpretive side of things.

**163.** Horseback riding rentals

**164.** It would be great if the castle could be shored up and safe so the fences could come down.

**165.** Hidden picnic areas along the trails

**166.** More handicapped accessible trails

**167.** Absolute favorite would be having a hotel in the park

Having paid running trails would be great

**168.** Picnic areas and camping would be great.

**169.** Disc Golf

**170.** E-Bike rentals?

**171.** Camping

**172.** I think it would be great to be able to camp there. Tent camping at a minimum, but RV sites would be nice.

**173.** Possibly camping

**174.** Historic markers. Picnic area, more clear trails.

Campsites, for dry lot RV.

Dog pen run.

**175.** More bike trails

**176.** You should open up a trail that goes around the castle and maybe she can actually go closer to it and you should show the old balcony on the back side of the castle. PLEASE NO CAMPGROUND!!! Campers always ruin the natural beauty and leave so much trash I hate seeing people that have to camp everywhere

**177.** It's fine that way it is.

**178.** Skatepark

**179.** None. It's perfect as is.

**180.** nice campground with showerhouse

**181.** None. It's great the way it is.

**182.** Camping

**183.** Camping, more hiking trails

**184.** a pro-level disc golf course with pro-level baskets designed by Dynamic Discs, MVP, or Prodigy not the disc golf monkey.

**185.** More camping- & different styles. More play areas/picnic areas.

**186.** Park ranger information, as in rangers present to talk about the history of the area and nature around.

**187.** I think someone should rebuild the castle and do tours of it!

**188.** A couple Pavilions to have gatherings in would be nice, and charging a rental fee would help the Park gain some revenue. Camping spots along the trails would be nice as well. Maybe guided tours of the caves that are accessible. Keep up the great work and thanks for all You do!

**189.** More information on sites

**190.** Camping

**191.** Trail running areas

**192.** Handrails in accessible spots for the older people. It could use a couple more picnic tables.

**193.** Swimming beach

**194.** Horseback trail riding. Ziplines.

**195.** Camping

196. I've caught trout in that area. Would be great to have them stocked a couple times a year
197. More play areas for young children, more bathrooms
198. Camping, rv hook ups
199. Camping
200. While I think camping would be a great addition to this park, I worry it will bring with it people who would take advantage and destroy some of our beautiful park.
201. It would be great to have more trails for people handicaps and or who are disabled.
202. More picnic areas
203. More picnic areas
204. Picnics
205. Swim beach/stand up paddle boarding
206. I feel as if the park should also include a designated biking lane or trail.
207. Picnic area, reservation only camping
208. None, keep it low key.
209. I'd love to have camping sites with full hookups.  
Flush toilets.
210. None keep it open and lots of space.
211. Camping
212. Camping
213. Leave as is
214. Camping could be cool! Love the castle. We hike there every time. It's the biggest draw.
215. Kayak rental. I have seen trailers that can rent kayaks using an ap.
216. More accessible to handicapped!
217. Picnic tables in a shaded area not just pavilions on concrete.
218. Camping
219. Camping area
220. More picnic spots and camping spots. It's large enough for lots more.
221. A public boat ramp with parking that would give boaters access to the niangua arm..
222. A campground would be a nice addition and a small visitor center maybe with a modest store.
223. I love it the way it is. Some short trails and some long trails. The connect. I am kind of sad you can not get close to the "castle" anymore.
224. A splash park for kids
225. Picnic area would be nice.
226. I remember camping as a boy scout and being able to have multiple days of exploring
227. None. Try to leave the upper, or castle site alone.
228. campsite
229. Camping
230. Camping, picnic area, more benches or seating for hikers who are not so young anymore
231. Camping
232. It would be nice to have more/nicer boat docks.
233. Camping facilities, cabins, lodging
234. More bike trails
235. Camping
236. Camping!!! RV sites, please!
237. More dock space
238. Camping
239. Guided tours?
240. Picnic table
241. Mountain biking trails with some jumps! Gravel or asphalt biking trail would be nice too.
242. Bike trails.
243. More dock space
244. Camping would be great!
245. Camping
246. None. If you add anything you will be destroying the atmosphere and history.
247. None. Don't add camping or overnight stays. No need for that at this awesome park
248. definitely a picnic area, maybe better developed trails/paths, more bathrooms for sure!
249. I'm not even sure what all is available
250. Ability to explore castle ruins, esp. fountain area.

251. Camping is needed it's too far to drive for just a day trip.
252. Places to sit and/or picnic
253. Camping options would be great, and a more immersive, safe and maintained access to historical sites.
254. Camping and backpacking
255. None don't change it
256. Handicapped/wheelchair accessible camping would innovative.
257. It would be great to be able to get closer to the castle again.
258. Feel nothing should be changed. This place exudes serenity and should be respected as such. Please do not make it commercialized. Remember visiting this place as a small child before it was a state park and gravel roads.
259. Feel nothing should be changed. This place exudes serenity and should be respected as such. Please do not make it commercialized. Remember visiting this place as a small child before it was a state park and gravel roads.
260. more paved trails
261. A camping and picnicking area would be great. Also it would be really nice to have benches along the trail from the parking lot at the spring, down to the boardwalk to the spring. This would serve well for lookers and fishers.
262. Bike trails, camping, even more walking trails. Re-open cave.
263. Picnic areas would be a great addition
264. Repair as best possible the castle ruins
265. stabilize structure so that it can be walked around and not blocked off.
266. Camping along with horse back riding
267. Better trails directly attached to the castle area.
268. I fell in love with Ha Ha Tonka many years ago when I first moved to MO. At that time, I was surprised that there is no camping facilities on site.
269. Campgrounds
270. More picnic tables. Hard to find one on weekends, holidays.
271. Camping
272. Camping & picnic area!
273. Disc gold was
274. Picnic area would be nice
275. An RV Campground
276. Camping would be nice if there is enough space.
277. Please add more slips to the boat docks. Please reopen the cave.
278. Open the ruins back up
279. MORE picnic areas
280. I would like to see more camping and better bathrooms at the castle entrance Open castle back up so we can continue to go in castle even if we have to sign a release of liability to do this
281. Camping. I live in the state of Nevada and I always stop through haha Tonka State Park every time I come to Missouri, but there really isn't anywhere set up to stay comfortably on the property.
282. Tours, horseback riding
283. Camping. Picnic areas
284. Camping!
285. I think people enjoy it as is
286. None. Not every park has to fulfill the needs of every person.
287. Disc golf
288. Camping area. Picnic area
289. Camping closer by.
290. Biking trails would be nice.
291. They had closed off the section by the castle and we missed being able to see it up close.
292. Park is fine.
293. I would love more trails (if possible) or a longer backpacking trail. A mountain bike friendly trail would be neat too but I realize that is a lot of upkeep and can lead to issues on other trails. We LOVE this park and I have been coming here with my family for 30 years. It's gorgeous and holds so many memories.
294. I love it how it is
295. camping
296. Interactive history lessons

297. Camping
298. Camping!
299. More controlled burns and other management
300. Apicnic area would be nice.
301. A swimming area.
302. More hiking trails, additional restrooms
303. Add camping, add easier trails to access for limited mobility individuals, add large picnic area to enjoy a packed lunch.
304. Quiet camping
305. Playground
306. Camping. Even if it's just a twenty spot full hook up area it would most definitely stay full and reservations full throughout the season and undoubtedly be another monetary form that would allow more advancements in the future.
307. Camping... I wish I didn't have to stay at Lake of the ozarks and drive. For fun, could you maybe turn the ruins into a camping lodge?
308. Please add mountain bike/bikepacking trails.
309. Maybe better maps of the different areas of the park so people know there is a playground and several covered picnic tables/areas just none close to the castle.
310. Camping spots basic and ele and flush toilets
311. Nothing missing
312. Canping or picnicking
313. Allow limited camping reservations at the special use camp when the Boy Scouts aren't there.
314. camping, we travel a few hours each way. it would be nice to be able to stay the night.
315. Limited backpack/hike in camping would be great.
316. Camping there is hardly anywhere to camp now that we are in a pandemic mindset. Campsites state wide are full all the way till seasons open and close. I would visit this site more if I had a place to stay.
317. Camping, swimming
318. More little kid friendly nature info! Some more trails for jogging stroller friendly paths to be able to run while pushing it with littles. I love the view but would be so nice to jog with my double jogger stroller and see it! I know lots of my local mom friends would enjoy that!
319. A nice tent camping spot with bathrooms near the site would be amazing.
320. More camping opportunities and better picnic amenities.
321. Picknicking
322. A couple more ho picnic areas would be great
323. The attraction to the park is the views. I proposed to my wife on the steps of the castle and while I realize that there's a safety concern, that area should be open to the public. it's spectacular and no one can use it now.
324. None. Please do not add picnic or camping facilities to this park. It's too nice and peaceful (and clean!) for hiking and walking. Picnic and/or camping facilities will create more litter and noise.
325. Go in the castle
326. I grew up next to Haha Tonka. It's my favorite state park. The only thing that would make it better is the ability to camp there. Perfect spot for campgrounds on hilltops along Deamond Rd. and/or Dry Hollow Rd.
327. Camping
328. Cave access if possible
329. It's already perfect the way it is. Don't mess with it!
330. Native plant especially those that help native pollinators like bees, butterflies, moths, birds. Enhance biodiversity with native fruit and nut trees for public foraging.
331. Would like to see a campground and more trails if possible.
332. Visitors should be able to get closer to the ruins physically and it would be better if there were more info signs explaining what we are seeing in each room, what

- the room was and how it was used, etc.  
Parking is good. This is a true gem in MO and it doesn't feel like we're promoting it enough and making the most of the resource. Tie in the spring and the ruins more.
- 333.** A larger picnic area would be nice.
  - 334.** Kids play area, not picnic areas with shade
  - 335.** A picnic area would be nice. I know a lot of people ask about a campground there, too, but if anything is built, it should not be built in the Turkey Pen Hollow area.
  - 336.** Camping
  - 337.** Camping
  - 338.** More Fishing options.
  - 339.** Horse rental
  - 340.** I believe adding another playground would be beneficial. The current playground area is only for small children and is always crowded.
  - 341.** Camping, Playground, Better Restroom Facilities
  - 342.** Hand rails and benches for the steep climb. A few more lookout points. Refortify the castle walls so we can walk inside.
  - 343.** Considering how much land is in this park it would be great if you expanded to include rv camping sites with electric. I frequently use Watkins Mill State Park.
  - 344.** Camping sites
  - 345.** It's been home for so long I am not sure what is missing. I kinda like it as it is.
  - 346.** Swimming
  - 347.** Camping
  - 348.** Programs that help people learn about the native plants more programs to teach people about our native plants and the invasive plants that are destroying the ecosystem. More programs that help people understand the benefits of companion planting with natural local plants not just foreign ones for landscaping.
  - 349.** Paved bike trail
  - 350.** Fishing
  - 351.** Camping with electric and water
  - 352.** Rebuild back before fire. Then open it to the public.
  - 353.** Kayak rental
  - 354.** camping
  - 355.** Better/more modern playground
  - 356.** Benches along the walkways for us old folks. Water spigots for our dog that loves the walk.
  - 357.** A botanical center showcasing the plantts, berries, trees, and fungi found throughout the park would be a family-friendly and educational addition. A butterfly garden could be a good alternative.
  - 358.** Bird watching.
  - 359.** More trails and picnic area(s)
  - 360.** Keep it as it is, hiking trails and historic site to visit
  - 361.** Why can't we have weddings in the house
  - 362.** Would love to see camping available
  - 363.** Camping, places for picnics/gatherings.
  - 364.** Perfect as is
  - 365.** More grill.to cook . More picnic tables.
  - 366.** More historic signage
  - 367.** Basic and electric camp sites
  - 368.** Camping, picnic area, playground
  - 369.** More picnic space and very rustic camping making sure to exclude and disallow and grilling and open fires.
  - 370.** More places to sit on stairs. More picnic places.
  - 371.** I'd love to be able to go back to the cave that they closed off to protect the bats. So some work on the stairs/boardwalk that goes back there.
  - 372.** Camping would be a nice addition
  - 373.** Primitive camping
  - 374.** Camping, backpacking
  - 375.** Absolutely nothing. Adding too much more will take away from the true nature and history of what haha Tonka is.
  - 376.** Paddle boat rentals would be nice and more hiking trails.

- 377.** I'd love to be able.to get closer to the castle and be able.to go back in it.
- 378.** Paddle boat? .... umm maybe a place to bring water up to touch it sobpeople can see how cold it really is!!! Always wondered how cold it really is. A glass walk way or platform if possible.... I don't want to damage its natural state. MY MOST FAVORITE place on earth.
- 379.** Bike paths
- 380.** Camping
- 381.** More trails. Maybe camping
- 382.** Shorter trails more campground areas
- 383.** Lodging, cabins, camping
- 384.** Camping
- 385.** I enjoy the area the way it is. I like the trails and the solitude. There are plenty of other recreational areas around the lake, I like how this is left alone.
- 386.** Camping
- 387.** Camping
- 388.** Repair of the mansion.
- 389.** It would be nice to be able to tour the inside of the historic buildings on the property safely
- 390.** Nothing is missing, the attraction is the quite and hiking.
- 391.** A picnic area and a camping area would be a nice addition. It would need a lot of maintenance with all the different traffic of visitors.
- 392.** A clearly marked swimming area would improve the park. Events promoting non motorized water activities like kayaking and paddle boarding would draw visitors as well. A more radical idea would be a permanent reenactment experience. Volunteers could dress in attire from the early 20th century, demonstrating how water from the spring was pumped to the castle, or how food was grown, or how the indigenous population lived. There are many places in the US, Williamsburg VA for example that generate revenue while providing a sense of history.
- 393.** Boat ramp, kayak rentals or launch area, a visitor center with interactive tour and historic information
- 394.** A little store that has water, bug spray, etc. That visitors forget.
- 395.** Another covered picnic area would be nice.
- 396.** Picnic tables and pavilions and grills
- 397.** More playground equipment for the pavillian are by the post office
- 398.** Camping/backpacking
- 399.** boat dock space to go hike is too limited.
- 400.** The spring should be reopened.
- 401.** Better docking for boats
- 402.** Camping
- 403.** Camping.
- 404.** campground with hookups for trailers and rvs
- 405.** I think there should be a place to rent horses and do historic trail rides to locations that are far for hiking.
- 406.** Tent camping would be a great addition!
- 407.** Widen trails, it is very bad when you meet people on some trails.
- 408.** Camping - picnic area
- 409.** Camping
- 410.** Easier access for private kayaks/canoe trailers
- 411.** I believe we should keep it the way it is. Untouched and beautiful.
- 412.** Zip lining or gondola rides would be a cool way to view the property.
- 413.** Boat ramp
- 414.** Camping
- 415.** A place sit and have a picnic
- 416.** Primitive camping
- 417.** Camping sites would be nice. Cave tours/exploring would also be cool to experience here as well. Not sure if it's tour-able or not though.
- 418.** Nothing,it's an amazing place! Has been since my father moved us to camden county in 1974!
- 419.** Playgrounds
- 420.** The walking paths, trails & stairs are too narrow. I wish the castle would be

- structurally stabilized & supervised tours inside allowed. Conservation & preservation should be the priority.
- 421.** Camping 30amp electric and water hook ups
- 422.** Definitely not camping site it's a beautiful park to simply rest your soul and listen and feel the beauty. If you like the quiet beauty we don't want camping. Take good care of it as it is.
- 423.** Miss seeing south castle side.
- 424.** Camping would be a wonderful addition and would bring us to the park more frequently.
- 425.** Camping
- 426.** It's perfect! Don't change a thing!
- 427.** Mountain biking. This is a perfect park to add mountain bike trails to the area. With multiple other activities already in the park, families can come and someone can ride bikes while others picnic or enjoy the views or go for a hike. There's lots of different elevation changes which is perfect for adding different types of trails of all skill levels. Especially in the Turkey Pen hollow area. This would be a huge addition to the community and would provide an attraction and draw to the park in the area year around as mountain biking is very popular in the winter/fall spring off-season.
- 428.** Mountain Bike Trails!
- 429.** Lodging and camping
- 430.** I love this park as is! From the steep hike, to the blue waters. The castle and the mill, the island! So much fun and history!
- 431.** Biking
- 432.** Mountain Biking - this would be an amazing place to add a network of mountain bike trails. The lake area is not on most mountain bikers maps but could be. It just needs more trails and this would be a great place!
- 433.** more walking trails
- 434.** Modern bicycle trails if possible.
- 435.** Dining, biking, horseback riding, lodging, camping

- 436.** Camping
- 437.** Would love to see more mountain biking specific trails comparable to other cities in the Ozarks region. Could easily become a national biking attraction and bring more tourism throughout the fall and spring.
- 438.** Campsites and maybe some biking trail
- 439.** Mountain bike trails
- 440.** Possibly a large picnic area near the castle.  
After the last stone tuckpointing of the castle access was great.
- 441.** This area needs mountain biking trails! Like NWA. We have the space/terrain/elevation just no effort from the state.
- 442.** Hiking and biking trails
- 443.** Mt biking
- 444.** Mountain bike trails and camping sites.
- 445.** Expand Turkey Pen and Quarry Trail
- 446.** Good biking trails
- 447.** Ha Ha Tonka has great trails, but it would be awesome to have a long trail along the lake and bluff. Also mountain bikes allowed.
- 448.** Bike trails,Camping
- 449.** NOTHING-this is a quiet, beautiful park. If you want recreation or entertainment, go to Six Flags. This is a natural beauty for solitude and quiet.
- 450.** More biking trails
- 451.** Add additional trails and maybe a way to get to all the trails from the Visitor Center.
- 452.** Downhill/bike park with jumps and drops
- 453.** Some mountain bike trails would be nice.
- 454.** Mountain biking
- 455.** maybe a play area or mdc available for info
- 456.** More mountain bike trails
- 457.** Open additional recreational areas in currently undeveloped parts of the park

#### Summary of Response Trends:

Camping – 65, Trails - 96 (Hiking – 14, Biking – 72, Equestrian – 10), Boating/swimming – 12, Picnic areas – 64, Play areas – 16  
None/Nothing missing - ~380



**What infrastructure or amenity, if any, do you feel is missing and should be added to this park or historic site to enhance the visitor experience?**

1. Campsites
2. Bathrooms
3. The stairs to the tower are narrow for passing others going the opposite direction.
4. Camping sites
5. Campground
6. Historical visitors center.
7. Camp sights
8. mobility access
9. Trash cans!
10. RV camping sites
11. I wish there was a better way for the elderly to get to the castle. Some are not wheelchair bound, but the walk up from the parking area is too much for family members with bad knees or hips.
12. Better toilets and available drinkable water.
13. The last time I visited there were orange screened fencing around the site. That was ugly. Proper fencing should be installed around the perimeter to keep visitors safe and outside the historical foundations.
14. More picnic areas
15. Add a campground..
16. More restrooms and picnic areas.
17. Campground, better restrooms and a fresh water dispenser.
18. Ice cream and/or food trucks
19. Same as above - possibly onsite food options
20. Parking an issue at historic site. To far to walk for elderly.
21. The castle is crumbling and needs to be shored up ASAP, before it falls in completely. Same is true of the other buildings that are falling down
22. It would be nice if someone would let the community, like radio interview known what is going on or what plans are being discussed.
23. The trails are always well maintained which is mostly what I'm interested in seeing, I'm not as familiar with the bathrooms and drinking fountains are around but some by the castle parking would be quite nice
24. The trails need to be updated a little better to allow seniors to enjoy them more
25. more benches for resting along some of the trails, especially going to the ruins.
26. Coffee shop boutiques
27. Parking/picnic facilities/trails
28. Restrooms
29. More senior activity
30. More senior activity
31. The kayak access looks difficult to utilize for me, bringing, getting into and launching solo.
32. The kayak access looks difficult to utilize for me, bringing, getting into and launching solo.
33. The kayak access looks difficult to utilize for me, bringing, getting into and launching solo.
34. The kayak access looks difficult to utilize for me, bringing, getting into and launching solo.
35. More restrooms and parking at the spring
36. Cutting trees so you can see the castle from the lake. Restore some of the castle walls.
37. More history or maybe a museum.
38. Trails marked better
39. A beach. Place for public to leave their kayaks for a fee.
40. More bathrooms
41. More restrooms. Guided tours of the historic nature of the area.
42. Great restrooms
43. Signage to the various historic sites could be a little better.

44. Make running / hiking trail system longer, bike lanes, dog park with water access area
45. I wish the remains of the Beautiful home could be restored! It is such a mystery & fascination -- and wish we could enjoy seeing it WHOLE AGAIN! It would be a magnificent Tour Destination! Thank You!
46. More bathrooms
47. I believe an RV park wold be a very welcome addition for both the area and to Missouri in general.  
Many other states parks have have amazing facilities and this could be one.
48. RV Camping sites
49. Golf carts for assistance
50. More bathrooms and more overlooks
51. Keep the history of HaHa Tonka alive , by not changing too much ...
52. More Bathrooms
53. Have "touch pads" around the park that have historic info about that particular area. Free to public to
54. Continue to reinvest in maintenance of park.
55. Electric bathrooms
56. 1) It would be great to have a bathroom with running water near the kayak area.  
2) People drive too fast on Missouri Highway D within the park. Can you do something? (Lower speed limit, do speed bumps, put up the things that shows people how fast they are driving?) Increase the fine within state parks like a work zone area?
57. It needs nothing. When visiting it takes you back to a earlier time, quite time doesn't need any distractions
58. Better boat accessibility.
59. Easier access to park by boat
60. A bathroom with running water near the "Spring Trail".
61. more camping shower houses
62. Covered pavilion for gathering
63. a single park ran convenience store that has ice, beverages, souvenirs, etc.
- 64.
65. The pit toilet in Spring Parking is always pretty funky
66. So much more potential.  
The closest decent bike trail is Jeff City- why??? So many possibilities here at the lake. We need bike trails and more open space walking. How about tent camping?
67. bathrooms would be nice
68. better and more parking.
69. Parking for the Castle is rather atrocious, and the main information building could be staffed better.
70. The visitor center needs to be updated and could be expanded with more hands-on educational activities for kids.
71. The castle needs to be more accessible
72. Nothing
73. Better rest rooms
74. Vending machines
75. Electrical hookups for RV Camping
76. Could use some more covered picnic areas like they have at Bennett Spring State Park.
77. List of annual events to attend: Halloween walk, nature sounds identification, identifying trails easily, areas for stretching, strength exercises
78. List of annual events to attend: Halloween walk, nature sounds identification, identifying trails easily, areas for stretching, strength exercises
79. Cleaner bathrooms, the women's bathroom was pretty nasty
80. Picnic areas
81. Nature center
82. Nature center
83. Nature center
84. Nature center
85. Better level trails to prevent trips and falls
86. Restrooms
87. More trails. Mountain bike trails.
88. Paved paths
89. If visitors want camping is that possible would help at summer peak season
90. campground,

91. A bit of seating near the castle remains would be very much appreciated. Benches would be very nice for friends who have difficulty walking and standing while others in the group are exploring. It would be nice to place them in a spot where those resting still can see the castle remains fairly up close (maybe one in shade and another in sun). To fit in, they could be made from rocks/stone that look like the rocks used to make the castle (I've seen such a thing and it's impressive), or wrought iron with simple wooden slats. I would imagine a mining company may even donate the stone in trade for a small plate noting they provided and fashioned the benches.
92. More bathrooms
93. Access to the Castle would be nice to regain if it can be reinforced and made safe again. It was a beautiful location for photos and the view is amazing.
94. Access to the Castle would be nice to regain if it can be reinforced and made safe again. It was a beautiful location for photos and the view is amazing.
95. You have a serious problem with family's getting lost and walking the road. DOES SOMEHAVE TO DIE OR
96. A dining option or store close by.
97. Camping
98. Better trail upkeep.
99. Improve bathroom odors
100. More and better parking & more accessibility
101. Nicer bathrooms. More benches.
102. Camping would be nice.
103. There has been a trail that has been closed for years now. At one point I offered to fund the restoration of the steps and whatever else was needed to get the trail back open. I was told that there was a grant to get the trail back open. I would like to see the trail back open.
104. I spend a lot of time googling info about the area when we bring friends that have come to visit us. The fliers that are available have some info but there is so much more to learn about everything there, the castle, family that built it, wildlife, plant life, topography and geology, there is no way to put it all in a free handout.
105. More Wayfinder and distance markers on the trails are needed. Some are very confusing and it's hard to tell how much further you need to hike to reach locations.
106. More Wayfinder and distance markers on the trails are needed. Some are very confusing and it's hard to tell how much further you need to hike to reach locations.
107. I think it needs to stay the same. I got married there years ago beautiful setting. Clean just perfect the way it is never change a really good thing. It's just a little peace of heaven on earth
108. Picnic areas. Benched
109. More restrooms
110. Exercise station. Pull up bar, dip bar, etc. Simple, low maintenance stuff. Preferably somewhere near stairs since it's often utilized for aerobic exercise.
111. A swim beach that is safe.
112. Camping
113. More water fountains or more access to refill water bottles. More places to sit or more picnic tables.
114. Better signage on the trails.
115. The trails are in terrible shape and measures to stop them from eroding should be taken soon before many of them wash out. The island trail to the wrought-iron bridges is in terrible shape. The trail above the stairs above the spring should also be in really bad shape.
116. Food trucks, ice cream truck, souvenir shop
117. Restaurant
118. Camping

119. Castle renovation
120. More bathrooms & benches on the longer trails. Also, the swim areas need to be cleared of large rocks & concrete with rebar sticking out before someone really gets hurt.
121. Maybe more benches or rest areas with pic nic tables along the trails in the clearings for those who are physically challenged.
122. More programs
123. History, natural vegetation and wildlife identification info markers on the trails might be beneficial. Also mission statement of preservation and conservation, so people might appreciate why it's a gem as it is.
124. Camping
125. More bathrooms.  
More informational boards and pictures about the history of the "castle", the town of Ha Ha Tonka, building of the dam and its effects on the town.
126. Bike trails
127. Picnic area
128. Adding flush toilets by the parking lot by the lake
129. Garbage cans to help with trash; better restroom facilities
130. The parking could be better; I've noticed a spike in numbers of a lot more people coming to visit. Updated reading signs.
131. More Seating. A place to have lunch.
132. Horse barn for trail riding
133. Rv camping improvements with trees.
134. Maybe some picnic tables?
135. Maybe some picnic tables?
136. Maybe another bathroom along the hike would be nice. And a water fountain.
137. Better bathrooms, benches to sit on, and more picnic tables . More signs for direction, historic significance
138. Better bathrooms, benches to sit on, and more picnic tables . More signs for direction, historic significance
139. Water bottle vending machine
140. It could use a better bathroom facility that is open year round at the top and bottom of the castle stairs
141. More picnic facilities, and add camping boating, swimming.
142. More picnic facilities, and add camping boating, swimming.
143. Nothing.
144. Nothing
145. Path that goes inside the ruins in a controlled safe way.
146. I wish we could swim on the spring side of the island but prefer to keep that side isolated as it is. It is a beautiful spot and my favorite part of the park
147. None-leave as is
148. Seems to have everything we ever need.  
Perhaps a place for food, but that really opens things up for litterbugs.
149. Additional restrooms would be nice
150. More small kid integrated features.  
Maybe another shelter to rent by the castle.
151. More parking closer to the house.
152. Picnicking & interesting hikes with varied terrain are our family's favored experiences.
153. Lemon aid stand on hot days everyone gets needing a drink of water
154. Coffee shop at old post office
155. More picnic tables, maybe picnic table pavilions. More restroom facilities - the current ones can get quite a long line of people waiting to use them.
156. Perhaps a telescope on one of the overlooks by the ruins for bird watchers or to get a better view of the landscape below.  
Or a way to build a boardwalk into the ruins to give a more i yes I've experience while preserving the history.
157. If you could walk through the castle ruins, that would be an experience!
158. I would like to see more backpack camping not just on the turkey pen hollow trail
159. More handicapped accessible trails

- 160.** The park is not maintained at all. I've grown up going to the park. There was a time you could be up close and personal with the castle and carriage house. Now everything is roped off for safety. However, if the park had put more into keeping people from climbing into and around the structures we could still enjoy them. And if the park would put more into preserving the structures it would be a great place to visit. It's just sad now.
- 161.** Having an air conditioned building where you can just relax and enjoy the beauty would be great  
Another dream would be to have golf carts for rent to drive around
- 162.** Restrooms picnic areas
- 163.** Consider adding a pavilion or shelter near the scenic overlook of the lake.
- 164.** restrooms closer to the ruins or top of parking lot
- 165.** Campground & facilities
- 166.** If possible, more handicap accessible trails.
- 167.** Water for drinking
- 168.** Central lot upgrade.  
Dog park.  
Kids playground  
Campsite
- 169.** Maybe picnic area possibly a playground but I don't want you to ruin the natural beauty of the area. More Hiking trails
- 170.** again, nice campground with a showerhouse
- 171.** Lodging, bed and breakfast
- 172.** Bathrooms.
- 173.** Considering the castle is rapidly falling apart, I propose a knockdown of the structure and the construction of an historically accurate recreation of the castle with a museum. within.
- 174.** Water fountains/refill stations along the trails for long haul holiest and backpackers.
- 175.** Walk in leave no trace camping with designated campsites and metal fire rings
- 176.** Bathrooms
- 177.** Camping
- 178.** Water fountains
- 179.** Modern playground equipment
- 180.** More, bigger docks at Ha Ha tonka on both sides.
- 181.** Nothing. I know they recently redid at least one of the bathrooms. Which was fine.
- 182.** Camping
- 183.** More potty would be nice
- 184.** Bigger/more bathrooms.
- 185.** Try to make the trails easier for the disabled to walk with family.
- 186.** Camping
- 187.** A nice picnic spot or multiple little setups
- 188.** The castle should be taken better care of. Vegetation is growing in crevices of the block which will cause the castle to further fall apart.
- 189.** More paved walking trails.
- 190.** Add more trails.
- 191.** I would have to say some times during the year, it gets very hot, and to have a rest/picnic area with shade and running water would not only add to the parks already perfect structure, but it would also draw more enthusiasm and curiosity to the site. Of course, it should be in a secluded area away from spaces or areas that would potentially pollute or ruin any park or historic amenities.
- 192.** Flush toilets
- 193.** Maintain castle
- 194.** Same as above /more accessible for handicapped
- 195.** Restrooms closer to the ruin itself.
- 196.** More picnic areas. More feasible access to swimming in the lake.
- 197.** Parking
- 198.** None
- 199.** A public boat ramp..
- 200.** campgrounds, visitor center, small store to accompany campground.
- 201.** A bigger picnic spot with BBQ grills.  
Rebuild the castle!

- 202.** More flushable bathrooms. The current restrooms are horrid in the summer.
- 203.** Additional bathrooms
- 204.** The bathrooms were taken out the last time we were there; I don't know if they're planning on putting them back in or not; but that would be nice to have.
- 205.** Public camping
- 206.** Expand the lower parking area with more picnic area or shelters
- 207.** Camping
- 208.** Please see my answers to number five above
- 209.** Flush restrooms
- 210.** More water fountains. Camping!
- 211.** More dock space
- 212.** Being able to walk inside the castle ruins.
- 213.** Camping
- 214.** Water fountains
- 215.** Really need campsites that are appropriately space apart. Most campsites are way to close together.
- 216.** More dock space
- 217.** more benches along the trails (am old)
- 218.** Campground, picnic areas
- 219.** a picnic area
- 220.** Nothing missing.
- 221.** I would like to see a visitor's center that included interactive activities - teaching visitors about the history of the of the castle, settlers of the area, and the native Americans who lived there.
- 222.** Drinking source
- 223.** More camping for non- special use area camping
- 224.** Camping should be added. Maybe a group area  
With a pavilion.
- 225.** More trails.  
A drinking water source would be great.
- 226.** Sidewalks! My family lives past Haha Tonka. We drive through daily and often see tourists walking on the roads instead of the trails. I don't think they realize they're walking on a 55 mph road and it is very dangerous. Sidewalks along the road could provide safety for everyone!
- 227.** Camping/pickbicking
- 228.** Did to mark the trails better with signage
- 229.** More parking, get tourists to NOT walk on D road!! Its dangerous, locals drive 55mph on D road.
- 230.** More pavilions would be nice
- 231.** Interactive Recorded information of site
- 232.** Maybe add a couple of vending machines for cold water/snacks for the hike.
- 233.** Additional parking
- 234.** Campung
- 235.** More restrooms with changing tables for babies
- 236.** A better visitors center
- 237.** More lake access
- 238.** A restaurant.
- 239.** I am not sure that camping is feasible. I have just come to understand that I visit Ha Ha Tonka for the day.
- 240.** Some primitive camping sites with vault toilets and a seasonal showerhouse would allow to visit more often.
- 241.** Additional restrooms.
- 242.** More parking
- 243.** Lodge!
- 244.** Interactive stations. QR code that does video highlights or audio tour guide. Visitors can upload video and or photos from their time. Do a scavenger hunt or geocache. More parking.
- 245.** Rv Campground, more picnic areas
- 246.** Camp (see above)
- 247.** Large picnicking/grilling area
- 248.** Modern bathrooms  
Picnic areas  
Playground area  
Better parking
- 249.** A fishing tag office on site would be fantastic. I would actually go fishing if I ever remembered to get my passes in time
- 250.** Running water bathroom  
'No smoking on trails' signs
- 251.** Camping

- 252.** Better restrooms and more restroom locations, baby changing stations, actual hand washing sinks instead of sanitizer (ew!), drinking water fountains
- 253.** Campsites for sure, would be amazing
- 254.** Perhaps enhanced walking paths and bike trails.
- 255.** Power at the pavilions
- 256.** Allow us to get closer to the site, picnic table by the site.
- 257.** Sand. I think it would be nice to have more accessibility to swim and beach out near the pavilions for the spring access. A formal campground would be Ben official as well.
- 258.** Water fountains half way up the staircase?
- 259.** Better security in parking lots so vehicles are not being broken into. This includes trailheads.
- 260.** More interactive options with the castle. My great grandmother went to parties here when it was a home and it would be neat to be able to see more of what it looked like back then.
- 261.** The bathrooms need to be fixed up they are terribly stinky. They either need to be emptied more or cleaned more often.
- 262.** More parking
- 263.** Do not add anymore man made feaatures
- 264.** Bathrooms were that flush and water fountains.
- 265.** It would be nice to see the Information center become more visible. Most people don't even know there is one. Have a playground and picnic area near it. And host more activities there. since the park is so spread out a lot of people miss half of it because they don't stop and get a map.
- 266.** Visitor center
- 267.** Playground area and trails for limited mobility. Either repair the ruins or build more historical buildings that are safe to enter and get close to.
- 268.** Perhaps a small welcome center/gift shop!store
- 269.** Additional Bathrooms
- 270.** restrooms and picnic areas
- 271.** Camping or lodging
- 272.** A turn lane. D Hwy is 55mph and through that area you have locals traveling quickly and visitors slowly trying to find the turns between the castle and the spring.
- 273.** Flush toilets
- 274.** Water fountains for drinking  
More handicap friendly dock access  
An additional dock, possibly covered
- 275.** Please replace the gate on the old Lodge family cemetery. I'm not sure if it was stolen or broken.  
The side and back walls around the cemetery are crumbling and need replaced. As a local, we watch it closely and keep it cleaned up and maintain the headstones when the fall, but we need some help with the structure things.
- 276.** If anything, hand rails walking up to the ruins - for those who want to enjoy it bit have difficulty walking.
- 277.** If there were a way to park at bottom, hike up and get a ride back down, or vice versa, would be nice.
- 278.** Camping there is hardly anywhere to camp now that we are in a pandemic mindset. Campsites state wide are full all the way till seasons close. I would visit this site more if I had a place to stay.
- 279.** Playground
- 280.** A spot to take pictures again by the castle. Our engagement photo was their where my husband proposed and I wish I could now get family pictures in the same spot.
- 281.** RV campsites and picnic areas.
- 282.** Picnic shelters and playground
- 283.** There needs to be some bathrooms nearby the castle.
- 284.** None. More infrastructure risks impacting the parks amazing peace and quiet.
- 285.** Docking
- 286.** See more of the castle
- 287.** More pavilions. I know several people who can't be in direct sunlight for very

- long due to their medications, so they need lots of shade.
- 288.** Visitors are no longer allowed to walk close to the castle as they once did. If they do, they are ran off. This has changed an unforgettable experience into an unpleasant one. Repairs need to be made so the site can be enjoyed once again.
  - 289.** Campground(s)
  - 290.** Camping
  - 291.** Closer bathrooms
  - 292.** Bike trails if possible ( I don't remember if this location has any)
  - 293.** Campground and a hands on interpretive center (like the center at Bennett Springs) for the kids
  - 294.** The trail to the spring is very nicely done. More access to the ruins and more informational signs about the ruins would be better.
  - 295.** Restrooms with running water would be nice as well.
  - 296.** It would be neat if there was a place to wash hands somewhere near the bathrooms.
  - 297.** Picnic areas and play ground with grills.
  - 298.** Picnic area
  - 299.** Camping picnicking
  - 300.** Wish visitors could get closer to the structures. Several bedrooms and audio push buttons explaining the geographic, animal and human history of the area throughout the park.
  - 301.** More Fishing Docks,
  - 302.** Better/more actual restrooms located at more locations than just the visitor center.
  - 303.** Better Restroom facilities
  - 304.** Add more stops and picnic areas
  - 305.** Drink stands
  - 306.** RV camping with electric and shower houses
  - 307.** Restrooms near the castle need much improvement.
  - 308.** Love the history of the area - maybe more info for people.

- 309.** More area built out for swimming near the spring on the cove side.

Also a sandy beach for launching kayaks easier & access for swimming would be amazing. The wooden launch and rock stars are very slippery and sometimes water levels are too low to use them & make getting the kayak out very difficult. I love the beach access that's at binder Lake and it'd be nice to have something like that near the picnic areas at ha ha tonka cove as well

- 310.** More information about the plants that live within the park and the animals.
- 311.** Paved bike trail
- 312.** Rebuild it and it would stand another 100 years
- 313.** Bathrooms
- 314.** more picnic area
- 315.** More permanent signs on connector trails. More trash receptacles near trails.
- 316.** I personally think things are great. Maybe more here horse trails.
- 317.** Restrooms
- 318.** I can't think of anything at this time.
- 319.** None keep as is
- 320.** Camping and picnicking
- 321.** More Picnic tables
- 322.** Picnic area
- 323.** Playground picnic areas
- 324.** I think the castle should be rebuilt to it's former glory so that visitors can get a better glimpse of the history behind Ha Ha Tonka. This could be done by having tours there.

I also think that the water tower should be fully restored as well.

- 325.** Picnic, eating, and meeting shelter spaces.
- 326.** More picnic areas.
- 327.** Better bathrooms, maybe places to camp
- 328.** Bathrooms... The ones by the spring trail are the absolute worst, smell horrid in the summer.



329. If there was some way of turning part of the already existing walk/bridge to make wheelchair access easier on some of the outskirts. The steps being so large makes is generally possible.
330. More hiking trails.
331. Water to drink... and wash hands... better bathroom...
332. Flushed toilets, bike paths, additional trails in places with no access.
333. Restaurant
334. Nothing at this time
335. Lodge, cabins, campgrounds
336. Nothing needs to be added. The walking trails are great, that's what we come up for. There is enough variety, from easy to harder, just depends on what you want. Leave it natural like it is! It's beautiful!!
337. More parking
338. More parking
339. Better trail markers, maybe add a few picnic tables near the castle now that it is closed off from visitors.
340. being able to walk around in the infrastructure
341. Repair the castle
342. Additional bathroom facilities would be helpful
343. It could use some more bathrooms. Several areas have no bathroom available for a great distance.
344. Camping site and picnic tables, with bathrooms and a playground area.
345. Is there an opportunity for a B and B type facility?
346. Maybe more pavilions or again, a visitor center
347. More park signs way before turn into the Ha Ha Tonka Springs area. Tourist always come at a dead stop then turn.
348. I like it like it is.
349. Vending machines
350. Bathroom upgrades  
More pavillian areas for picnics
351. It would be wonderful to have more dock space for boats - and of larger sizes than currently provided.
352. Camping for families and group camping sites
353. More access to castle.
354. Boat dock
355. Flush toilets.
356. Better restrooms and more of them
357. Open up the cave area again.
358. More trails
359. Camping - picnic area
360. A public restroom closer to the castle
361. Easier access for private kayaks/canoe trailers
362. Nothing should be added it should be left as it is.
363. Need to stabilize the Ha Ha home so people can walk around it.
364. Access inside the castle. Stage it to the time period.
365. Campsites
366. Nice bathrooms
367. Campgrounds
368. Picnic area
369. I feel that a sandwich shop with outdoor seating overlooking the valley would be awesome. Something simple to provide a picnic style meal.
370. Camping
371. Camp access and equestrian camping
372. My daughter says more merchandise.
373. Mountain biking
374. Mountain Bike Trails!
375. A private public partnership to rebuild the crumbling mansion to turn it into a lodge with accommodations and a museum would be amazing
376. Maybe more places for drinking water
377. Other states have amphitheater nice dog parks lots of pavilion
378. Bicycle amenities... Maybe a kids bicycle playground.
379. Bathrooms with flushable toilets and running water for washing hands. Best if located near castle and spring parking areas.
380. Potable water access
381. Bike trails

- 382.** More picnic areas. Keep boardwalks in better condition
- 383.** Bathrooms with plumbing and water
- 384.** Some of the boards need to be replaced on the boardwalk in the next few years.
- 385.** RV park on bluff. PICKLEBALL courts!
- 386.** If you add commercialism, you're adding all the trash, trashy people with it. No need for food. Toilets are enough. People are spoiled and entitled. Go to town if you need amenities.
- 387.** Restrooms in the park really need updates. For such a busy and popular park, it has very outdated infrastructure.
- 388.** Parking for some trails is a premium.
- 389.** Shower house/ bathrooms/ electric pull-through sites with paved grounds.
- 390.** More mountain bike trails
- 391.** Pulling out on D road can be very dangerous. RVs should not be encouraged to enter the park for this reason. Also there isn't enough parking for large vehicles.
- 392.** Better attention to trails and historic ruins what are the plans to stabilize the castle ruins?  
Another picnic shelter and picnic sites.  
More trails in undeveloped areas including more sections added to Turkey Pen Hollow trail.

Summary of Response Trends:

- Parking – 27
- Restrooms – 40
- Dock space – 8
- Improved accessibility – 29
- Castle – 37 (stabilize, rebuild, open, etc.)

**Do you have additional comments or suggestions regarding this park or historic site?**

1. Love it!
2. Our boy scout troop camps and hikes at HA HA Tonka. It is a great park for that type of activity.
3. Allow parking after dark while fishing
4. The park could be larger. The park seems small.
5. It's one of our favorite parks. We love it there.
6. Repair the castle walls and remove the railing around the castle.
7. No tv camping or off road vehicles
8. Maintain trails, boardwalks and stairs.
9. There is so much trash where the spring enters the lake...is there anything that can be done there?
10. It's a beautiful park and I think could be even better with additional attractions
11. Trail signing is confusing and inadequate.
12. It is a wonderful park. The castle and related buildings are in desperate need of maintenance
13. Love the October festivities!
14. Bery beautiful park, it's definitely my favorite
15. Please don't over improve Ha Ha Tonka, particularly down by the spring. I'm afraid of over use ruining the natural beauty.
16. We come to the lake a lot. We have a house on the 4 mm on the big niangua so we visit haha tonka many times in the summer.
17. If there's any way to further reinforce or save the remaining structure of the castle for future generations to see it would truly be a blessing.
18. sadly, people litter on the boardwalk/stairs. More DNR Ranger patrols
19. It need some TLC
20. Fund and finish the stabilization project of the castle ruins
21. The kayak launch is unusable as it shoots your kayak down under the water. It needs to be replaced.
22. Love it!
23. Leave it be. Do any necessary structural repairs but keep it simple
24. Beautiful place to visit with the family
25. Gorgeous park! Ability to get closer to the castle would be nice.
26. Nothing but old badly building about to fall. Not much to see other than that and spying. Spring isn't much to see compared to other larger springs, we can trout fish.
27. Nothing but old badly building about to fall. Not much to see other than that and spying. Spring isn't much to see compared to other larger springs, we can trout fish.
28. We enjoy the park and have taken many visitors there.
29. If the Beautiful Home or "Castle" as I like to call it would be REBUILT, the excitement of planning such a huge project would bring THOUSANDS of visitors & equal DONATIONS or PLEDGES TO HELP with the PROJECT! If it were publicized, it could happen & would be known all over the US & farther!
30. Don't close it but advertisements would help. I have been going to Ha Ha Tonka since I was a young kid and I have been taking my kids to there since they were a few months old
31. Keep it intact please!!
32. No rvs in park
33. It would be great if the castle site could be fixed so that visitors could get up close to it again. I remember thinking it was so cool as a kid and I hope to take my daughter one day
34. It has so much to offer but think if things are cleaned up a bit and access to certain areas limited, more people would come
35. Thank you for offering the kayaking. Have not done it there yet, but we will.

- We visit more in the cooler weather and less in the summer due to the heat.
36. Its an amazing place and takes you back in time to how difficult of a time it was to build such a breathtaking place
  37. You should work to stabilize the existing structures, to keep them from falling.
  38. You should work to stabilize the existing structures, to keep them from falling.
  39. build more trails get the trail system that use to be on the east side of the park back up and running
  40. Rebuild the castle!
  41. My mom (Fern Moreland) wrote and knew a lot of history about the Castle and area. The History should be maintained.
  42. It could be so much more
  43. Can the fence around the castle be moved closer to the castle for better viewing?
  44. Enjoy walking the trails, but some of them are not connected and you just have to return the way you came.
  45. Please make a better effort to clean up trash in and around the Ha Ha Tonka Spring. The last few times I have been there, i noticed a fair amount of garbage either in the water or on the shores of the springs. It was rather sad.
  46. This park is absolutely incredible, and has such a significant history! I hope so badly the castle ruins can be saved.
  47. It would be nice to see Conservation Agents out & about giving talks about the park & ruins. All our visits there we never ran into a conservation agent.
  48. Better interpretive service would make the park more fun for kids as well as a better campaign to get the word out about events offered.
  49. Closer parking for castle area for seniors.
  50. More posted information on wildlife, plant life, geologic formations, etc.
  51. Love it's natural beauty.
  52. We would definitely visit more often if there was a place to camp with our RV
  53. More preservation of the historic site as well as maybe rebuild a small section to its original condition? Cost is always a factor so maybe not feasible.
  54. The intersection by the Post Office is extremely dangerous and could be improved.
  55. It's a great place for hikes, gathering for families
  56. It's a great place for hikes, gathering for families
  57. I always thought it would be cool to restore the mansion on the hill at haha tonk that got Burned down maybe get Johnny Morris on it!
  58. This is a great day use park located in an area with many places to eat and sleep including another state park with boat ramps swimming and camping. Plenty of private areas to stay. Keep Ha Ha Tonka simple but maintained.
  59. Leave it as is
  60. Better trail marking
  61. Thanks for the opportunity to comment.
  62. Continue with the good trails and maintenance on them.
  63. Continue with the good trails and maintenance on them.
  64. Be injured before something is done. Park employees know of this issue and nothing is being done. Their is a guardrail on one side
  65. My Great Grandfather, Orie. S. Eldred, was a carpenter from Mack's Creek, MO. When he was a young man, he visited the castle before the fire. My mother use to play in the water tower. I wish people had more photos of the park. Also, I wish we could have weddings at the castle.
  66. keep it natural as possible.
  67. I would like to see the horse stable and the castle rebuilt.
  68. The trails on the island are not well marked. You think you're following a trail, then suddenly you can't find a way forward or backwards.

69. I'm busy weekends parking at the castle site can be messy. Either more parking should be planned, especially handicapped, or shuttles made available from the large lower parking lot and info center.
70. i think you should rebuild the castle & everything it originally looked like, to be able to see history up close then just in ruins. everytime i look at a ruin i wonder & wish i could see what it originally looked like, to be able to touch history to explore it as it was meant to be so long ago, to feel as if i am there in another time when the castle was beautiful in all of it's original glory. if it was rebuilt u could hold dances & dinners in the castle & dress in the time period it was built in. many people would love this ability.
71. I would like the castle to be made safe to be around and the fencing be removed
72. One of my very favorite in missouri
73. I don't think camping or large picnic areas should be added.  
People will litter and disrespect the area.
74. Maintain as is
75. Leded tours around the castle and other buildings, telling the history of the place
76. Always have loved visiting Haha Tonka since I was a little girl, love that I can still share that with my kids.
77. This park used to be such a gem but is quickly declining....
78. I think camping here would be detrimental. It would create trash and would potentially disturb the peaceful environment.
79. Would be awesome to see the castle rebuilt.. but I know that's a dream
80. I think the castle should be renovated to display how it looked before it burned.
81. I love this park, it is beautiful during every season. There needs to be a better way to get back to the parking lot when hiking the Devil's Kitchen trail other than walking on the highway. It is very dangerous! Also suggest that the speed limit on hwy D be reduced to 30 or 35 where the park is.
82. Keep it quiet!
83. It is well maintained and beautiful, Thank you for an awesome park in our back yard!
84. The unpaved trails could use better marking of which color while on the trail, as well as better directions at trail intersections. Yellow to go to...Blue goes to... Like a you are here at each trail intersection.
85. It was cool when you could get up close to the ruins.
86. The "castle" should be restored enough to make it safe for a more up-close experience.
87. More information on Memorial benches
88. No
89. I would like to see fishing/kayaking allowed in the spring branch.
90. Beautiful scenery!
91. I wish some of the board walks could be redone and the fence line surrounding the "castle" could be better because people always cross it and try to walk around it.
92. The park around.
93. The park around.
94. While I understand the push to include potential for camping, I love the quiet, almost pensive nature of the area in off seasons and even early morning during summer before the heat and crowds start to file in. I don't think Ha Ha Tonka needs camping.
95. Do something useful with the ruins.
96. Preserve the castle and infrastructure!  
Please never change it, it's the reason we and a lot of people visit this place.
97. Preserve the castle and infrastructure!  
Please never change it, it's the reason we and a lot of people visit this place.
98. Don't over-develop it and destroy the peacefulness of the area.
99. Don't over-develop it and destroy the peacefulness of the area.

100. I don't think I've ever seen a free pamphlet showing all of the trails with mileages. That would be very helpful for families planning a hike
101. Leave it as it is.
102. Don't do a thing.
103. I love the walk to the spring and hike over the island
104. I don't want it to drastically change, it is a beautiful place to relax and explore nature. We enjoy looking for insects and birds while walking.
105. Leave it as natural as you can.
106. Family loves it.
107. Family-oriented information about the park/site including recommendations on trails & activities suited by age group are always welcome.
108. It's beautiful everyone should get to visit once
109. Have architectural evening eg to describe how the castle was built and laid out or more detailed info in a brochure.
110. Keep the habitat quality as a priority. We love seeing migratory birds and watching insects.
111. Would love to see the castle rebuilt!!! More handicap parking in the upper lot would also be helpful.
112. Just that additional amenities and infrastructure have the potential to take away from the park. The long people are at the park the greater chance of destruction of the natural resources and the historic area. When I was there last week there were plenty of people ignoring the signs to get into the ruins or down into the riparian zone near the spring and that is just day use. If camping or something similar was added I fear it will add to the possibility of additional damages.
113. Ha Ha Tonka is beautiful and a wonderful getaway, I fear adding camping or picnicing sites could increase litter in the area.
114. More shorter (1-3 mile or 1 hour) hiking trails are always welcome.
115. The trails need a little upkeep after the busy summer .  
I love the natural bridge area!
116. Please update the markers on the trailheads and along the trails
117. Do not add camping to this site. It would change the atmosphere of the park. It's a trail, photography, and interpretative site. As a Historical site should be.
118. We love it just the way it is. I have been going there for 50 years.
119. Beautiful place more people need to come check it out
120. Disc Golf is growing consistently as a sport and recreational activity for people of all ages. Adding a course to this historic site would increase visitor traffic, overall satisfaction, and could even bring new opportunities for future disc golf related events.
121. Improved restroom facilities at Spring area.  
Love the park! Thanks you!
122. preserve the castle ruins to allow up close pictures again
123. It is a beautiful area and generally well kept. With some additions it would be even better.
124. Please do not let people camp up around the castle
125. Keep it how it's been. It's amazing
126. If it ain't broke, don't fix it!
127. The mansion would make an awesome bed and breakfast or romantic getaway if it was restored
128. The historic area is fantastic.
129. Keep up the great work! Thank You for all You do!
- 130.
131. Parking improvements would be ideal for busy days
132. Keep the castle as is. Add horseback riding barns and trails throughout the park. Add ziplines and infrastructure to

- support them. Bigger/more docks at the park.
- 133.** Restoring the castle and/or carriage house to allow visitors to explore the building and see what it looked like while in use
- 134.** We love coming here and that it's a place to enjoy nature.
- 135.** Restore the castle and give tours
- 136.** Love it one of my favorites
- 137.** Love this park
- 138.** Camping
- 139.** Please do not change this park. Right now it offers people a place to enjoy being outdoors, hiking, etc., which is perfect. If you bring in campers, then you have to deal with parties, more trash, and more people who will likely not preserve the history of the park.
- 140.** I've been hiking/walking at ha ha Tonka for 30+ years. It's a beautiful place, well maintained, easily accessible park. But I constantly get lost on the trails. The markers are vague in some of the less traveled trails and it's very easy to get turned around or off onto a different path. Other than adding a few extra trail markers, I think this place is perfect for me & my dog to get out to nature.
- 141.** Make it 420 friendly
- 142.** Bennett Springs Park-hiking trails have not been fixed for 2 years or more, it seems everything is falling to wayside with no intentions of repairing/fixing them for use.
- 143.** Add more trails.
- 144.** Recycling bins should be available to reduce trash and any pollution to the park.
- 145.** It's a great place to walk  
I walk the spring about 3 times a week
- 146.** Just keep up the trails.
- 147.** Love the springs.
- 148.** My husband is from Camdenton, this has been one of our favorite places, with limited mobility he isn't able to enjoy it anymore.
- 149.** It should stay AS IS.
- 150.** We own a little cabin on Tonka Spring Road and we enjoy visiting the state park on a regular basis. We love the addition of the kayaks and the views in all seasons are amazing!! Thankful for such a beautiful state park in the Ozarks!
- 151.** Landscaping?
- 152.** Put in a boat ramp..
- 153.** could be better
- 154.** Please don't mess it up by commercializing it. The trails and history are great
- 155.** I'd like to tent camp. No RVs.
- 156.** A walking path along the road from the castle parking lot to the lakeside parking lot. Some people come down all those steps and are not able to climb back up the steps.
- 157.** The castle ruins should be either restored to the point they can be explored, or the castle should be rebuilt for use
- 158.** I love it!
- 159.** is great well maintained peaceful
- 160.** Please leave it as it is.
- 161.** Better bathrooms
- 162.** I enjoy the peace and tranquility of the park.
- 163.** Please keep this park quiet and natural. That is what makes this place special...it's natural beauty.
- 164.** closer access to castle
- 165.** Please make a trail beside the highway so tourists will quit walking on the road! A pedestrian is going to get hit
- 166.** I would love to see horse back camping and trail riding
- 167.** Better maintenance of the trails and viewing areas. More information, directional signs.
- 168.** I still love this state park. It is the first MO state park I visited when I moved to MO and it is still my favorite. I have learned almost all of the trails. I just wish I lived closer!

- 169.** This is one of our favorite parks but we try to avoid it during weekends/holidays unless we have family in town who haven't been there.
- 170.** It's great!
- 171.** It was a let down last time we went and you couldn't go in the house anymore
- 172.** I would pay more for Wifi access
- 173.** We enjoy the well-kept walking trails and interesting history.
- 174.** It was wonderful to have had the freedom in the past to enjoy the castle up close and personal, rather than just viewing from a distance. Also the glade across the highway used to be accessible. It was a great vantage point to view the castle and other parts of the park. Why was it closed off? If it was closed to preserve hunting grounds for park employees, that is not what our tax dollars are for!! Open it back up!! We the people of Missouri are losing more and more of our state park land to bureaucracy!!
- 175.** miss getting up close to the castle
- 176.** No camping near castle  
Picnic / benches near castle  
Open the castles back up with a signed release of liability.....especially the balcony
- 177.** I miss being able to go near the castle but I understand.  
The amount of people smoking on trails has increased and make it unpleasant to walk the trails.
- 178.** Build a Campground
- 179.** I love Ha Ha Tonka. Like any place, there are always those who dampen the experience for others. Not sure what can be done about people leaving dog poop and cigarette butts on the trails, but that is a frequent complaint while hiking there. Can't tell you how many times I nearly stepped in dog poop.
- 180.** Just keep it clean
- 181.** Nope. Love the park and staff
- 182.** Miss getting close.
- 183.** Please secure the castle and take down the barriers.
- 184.** Enjoy visiting the park!
- 185.** I would like to be able to get closer to castle like in the past. I'd like the spring lake fixed so water comes around both sides of the island like in the past.
- 186.** Leave it alone.
- 187.** need to have clear exit signs or trail markers to quickly get out of there. we got caught in an unexpected storm last year and exhausted ourselves needlessly taking the wrong trails trying to get out.
- 188.** My favorite park ever.
- 189.** Please do NOT add a campground. Part of the appeal to this park is the pace and quiet. I am an avid camper and love the camping lifestyle, but this is not the location for another campground. The area already has ample opportunities for camping. Please leave this historical site in quiet peace.
- 190.** Needs a bit more trail maintenance.
- 191.** Keep the boaters away, protect the natural features
- 192.** I love this park, but we always make plans to eat outside of the park and the trip is always cut short when someone needs to use the restroom since it is at the bottom of the hill.
- 193.** Please find a way to preserve the castle more. It honestly needs to be rehabbed to it's original glory but I'm sure the cost would be unbelievable.
- 194.** Can the ruins be turned into lodging or unique camping?
- 195.** Leave it be.
- 196.** More park people to maintain / keep an eye on people.  
The ones there do a great job but they can't divide and be in multiple places at one time. It's a large park and spread out.
- 197.** This park is great! The state has done a great job with it.
- 198.** We love our home. I wish there was some way to remind summer visitors that this is a state highway. When folks get



- lost on the Devils Kitchen trail, they end up walking the highway (sometimes with small children) and it's so dangerous.
- 199.** Have the infrastructure stabilized so that the fence can be removed. Otherwise, leave as is in it's natural beauty.
- 200.** Some access within the ruin would be great for photos
- 201.** It's a great site but with all the inflow of people to Missouri now since the pandemic you need to expand. More parking. More camping. More trails.
- 202.** Beautiful park! More kids activities in the park for preschool- grade school age! A park for toddlers and little kids would be amazing by the picnic tables too!
- 203.** I love this park and can't wait to be back
- 204.** Ha Ha Tonka is a jewel of our state. I'd just like to see general access and modernized amenities so that younger generations love it as much as I did in my youth.
- 205.** We live within 30 minutes of this park and we visit a few times a year, as it is our favorite local state park (BSSP is also very close to us)....this would be a perfect location for some fun classes/ family activities occasionally. It would even be great for some homeschool classes.
- 206.** Ha Ha Tonka is a treasure and a very popular tourist destination. It should be preserved.
- 207.** Please stabilize the castle ruins so that they can be explored up close again.
- 208.** Leave Ha Ha Tonka as is do not change
- 209.** We have been visiting Ha Ha Tonka since before the castle ruins were fenced off. Please preserve what is left of the castle & other building. The trails are wonderful. We love to hike from the lake side parking up to the castle & back.
- 210.** The giant sinkhole on the hilltop to the SE of Devil's Kitchen is not on any trail maps. It needs a trail going to it and a viewing platform. There are a series of waterfalls along Spencer Creek just south of the special use area that would be a perfect spot for a new loop trail.
- 211.** Please don't add a campground. It would ruin the peacefulness. There are already two large picnic areas.
- 212.** Thanks for all you do to keep our Parks wonderful.
- 213.** Better trail maps
- 214.** Please do not change the Turkey Pen Hollow natural area! It's beautiful. One of the best areas in the state.
- 215.** Fix the structures so we can walk up to them.
- 216.** Please consider changing the fencing around the castle area. I know this is a safety issue but I hate how you can't even go to the front of the castle now which offers a wonderful view. The current fencing and signage take away from the beauty of the castle and lookout area. Fixing/refurbishing the castle has always been a dream of mine!
- 217.** Upkeep on historical ruins and more information on the water
- 218.** No camping please.
- 219.** Please save the castle!!
- 220.** Please do not take down the walls of the building-
- 221.** I just wish it was a bit easier to get kayaks out. Easy to launch from the dock, but hard to get kayak back out of the water if you're by yourself.
- 222.** More information about the historical Indians who lived in this area and their ways of life perhaps a bigger museum and a festival.
- 223.** Please add a paved bike trail.
- 224.** REBUILD!!! RESTORE!! It would be an amazing site for weddings, parties and other events!
- 225.** Leave historical site alone!.leave All Historical Sites Alone
- 226.** We love HaHaTonka!
- 227.** The cove at the park needs tighter restrictions. Boats are piling in like it's Party Cove and blasting their radios with foul language that can be heard from afar, and ruins the peaceful family atmosphere on the park grounds

228. Keep it as a state park as is please
229. Figure out a way to remove the fence from the ruins
230. Keep it no camping!!!
231. It would be nice to have a trashcan by picnic area.
232. Just keep maintaining the park. It's my favorite place to home and one of my favorite places in the state
233. Post office playground could use a refresh.
234. Please don't landscape/cut down too many more trees, it's already lost landscape due to highway expansion and others.
235. Maybe add a metal grate or something people can walk on yo go inside the castle to see.... I'm sure there was thought of that before... better ways to get drinking water as well.
236. Keep up the good work
237. Would be nice to build a "replica" lodge for guests to rent a room
238. I was born in the area before this was a State Park. Enjoy coming back to the area because it is a special place to me. This is one of the most calming places for me. Don't ruin it by adding more recreational things. Those are already all over other places around the lake. Keep this place in its natural state!!
239. Leave it as is please
240. Lots of garbage is left around the park. Wish there was a way to remedy that.
241. Please remove the graffiti and pentagrams from the water tower if they have not been removed already.
242. Good as is!
243. I really like this park and the general layout. I don't believe it needs significant change but mostly just update.
244. We've seen otters, deer, snakes, muskrats, ducks, heron, turtles, and fish. Please don't build anything that might threaten these habitats.
245. I love this park! You staff are excellent and our family appreciates all you do.
246. Some people walk on the side of D road which is very dangerous maybe add some walking trails.
247. I love hiking at Ha Ha Tonka. It is clean and beautiful.
248. I will say when the fence was added around the "castle" the site lost some of its best features that I loved growing up and visiting there. I wouldn't want something else to be added and take away more of the "jump into the past" qualities that the site had.
249. Find the resources (grants) to shore up the castle, so visitors can once again walk around the castle.
250. Ha Ha Tonka is a wonderful park, and is very nicely maintained - a real treasure to so many residents and visitors of Lake of the Ozarks.
251. Keep the castle preserved would be great for history.
252. Adding a camping area would bring a lot of revenue in for you.  
Water and electric for RV's. Full hookups even better.
253. We are locals and love to visit but also take family when in town, would love to be able to "stay" there with our camper
254. DONT CHANGE ANYTHING
255. Open up the cave area again.
256. We love going to the park. It's a new adventure every time we go.
257. The park is beautiful and the history is like a dozen moment in time. Adding anything to this park would take away from his historical beauty.
258. Please keep it as natural as possible.  
Don't commercialize.
259. Beer garden with small food options and tables to sit at and enjoy the view and hangout.
260. Rebuild areas around ha ha tonka, gardens fur example
261. Need updated boat docks.
262. Don't sell out!
263. Leave it alone it is beautiful the way it is!

- 264.** Please don't add camping to this park.  
We enjoy the quiet and peaceful beauty of this park as it is.
- 265.** Just don't change a thing
- 266.** We would love more trails and camping access.
- 267.** The Park Rangers we have spoken to have been so kind and informative.  
Great ambassadors to the park!
- 268.** It would be really nice to be able to get close to the castle again, or at the very least not have the huge yellow "do not climb signs"
- 269.** Mountain Bike Trails!
- 270.** Please keep the castle intact!!
- 271.** Thanks for all your do.
- 272.** Love the boardwalk areas - very well maintained! Beautiful park - best in the area.
- 273.** Camping would be a great addition IF a campground does not detract from the landscape.  
Potable water access, at least at the castle ruins or the water tower would be a great asset for the area.
- 274.** Please provide better access to the castle than there is at present. 9/22.
- 275.** The fencing around the castle site is unsightly. I used to enjoy that area but now it has lost its magic.
- 276.** More weedeating/trimming of trails through the spring/summer
- 277.** Ha Ha Tonka is the best state park in the state. Ryan is doing a fantastic job with the park.
- 278.** This has been a place that I have went to since the 1970's. I grew up with this familie's stories and legends and hate seeing hundreds of people tramp all over the place with their trash. This is not meant to be a theme park. This is a natural state park meant to be appreciated for its solitude and quiet. If you spend money, build and shore up the walls that are left. Without those walls, you don't have the feeling of what was there. Quit using house and carriage

rocks for other things and use them to add back to what they were used for in the first place.....walls.

- 279.** Open river cave area back up to the public. Update the restrooms to have water and septic.
- 280.** Make the camping sites available through November or mid-November, keeping bathrooms open.
- 281.** this is a really beautiful place to go to
- 282.** I would like to see Ha Ha Tonka stay less developed and more natural. I people want to RV camp they have 100's of spots at LOZ state park. Please let HHT stay a natural wild place. There are fewer and fewer of these places every year.
- 283.** Wonderful that the special use camp is available. Children especially need these more primitive experiences in nature to make a connection that they will carry into their future and help preserve and support our parks.
- 284.** Beautiful park, but so very busy. I am concerned the negative impacts of overcrowding. Does the state know the carrying capacity of this park? Or any park?

#### Summary of Response Trends:

- Prohibit camping/Day Use only
- Markers & trail signage
- Restore ruins, make ruins accessible
- Trail maintenance & trash upkeep
- "Love this park!"
- Keeps as is
- Backpack camping

**Do you have any comments or suggestions regarding Missouri state parks and historic sites?**

1. Please keep updating them so we can use them they are a huge asset to our lives here in Missouri!
2. Many people ride the Katy Trail from Clinton to St. Charles. These people are always looking for food locations and lodging along the route.
3. More potties!
4. valued highly
5. More docents
6. Missouri takes excellent care of their parks. We have relocated to the lake of the ozarks from Illinois and Missouri has fantastic state parks compared to Illinois
7. Biking trails would be helpful
8. More advertising of locations
9. I love our state parks, this is the one we have visited many times.
10. Wonderful and I should use these incredible resources more.
11. Wonderful and I should use these incredible resources more.
12. Wonderful and I should use these incredible resources more.
13. Wonderful and I should use these incredible resources more.
14. We had trouble finding good accurate maps for different trails. They were not posted well and hard to find.
15. Continue the great job your doing with a beautiful place
16. Super clean and well kept.
17. Don,t need to spend more money or start new ones.
18. Don,t need to spend more money or start new ones.
19. We are somewhat new to Missouri but love all of the state parks we have visited.
20. Just maintain what we have. Update as needed.
21. Rvs outside the historic areas
22. Ha ha Tonka is very unique and nice that it is free access
23. Build bike paths like they have all over Fayetteville and Rogers Arkansas, we travel, as do other, to the NW Arkansas area for a weekend of fun away from the party atmosphere here at the Lake. They did it right.
24. Make these nice.
25. Of the parks that I have been to, which are many, Ha Ha Tonka is the best in Missouri. The bathroom that is outside of your visitor center and the exhibit area are the best. All bathrooms in state parks should be like this and located outside the visitor center, so that everyone can use the bathroom when a visitor center is closed. The Spring Trail is outstanding. Thank you for everything!
26. Leave historic places alone and just maintain them please.
27. Where is the Brumley spaceship?
28. Restroom facilities need to be updated at some parks. An assessment needs completed, prioritized and improvements made.
29. The one and only bike trail in Lake Ozark park is dangerous
30. I have seen some parks upgraded to where it is more of a resort then a state park or historic site. Need to keep them simple. I enjoy visiting state parks, historic sites and public use areas, keeping them simple makes the visits more enjoyable. Adding too many amenities just ruins the experience. The new visitors will like it, the older visitors will not.
31. You need more people to manage the parks in the Lake of the Ozarks area, especially with the huge increase in tourists over the past 5 years.
32. Missouri has a great park system!
33. Have been very pleased with our experiences over the years with the state parks. Keep up the good work
34. We camp at some and not all, but its clear more people are camping and its

- taking a toll on the condition of some MO state park campgrounds.
35. They aren't used enough
  36. They aren't used enough
  37. Just keep doing what your doing.
  38. Maybe a little better maintenance on the KT thru Warren County.  
A great system over all!
  39. I appreciate the fact Missouri State Parks are free to enjoy.
  40. They should be preserved
  41. And bluff on other with absolutely no shoulder for anyone to escape. This should be your #1 concern.
  42. Shepard of the Hills State Park just needs to open for hiking if nothing else. We should be allowed to use this land.
  43. Nothing. If you add more things it won't stay isolated and quiet. The more you add, the less I will want to be there.
  44. I don't like that you have to pay extra fees to reserve a site to camp.
  45. Still wondering why you can't camp at swinging bridges and carns bottoms sites... it's a big downer on us locals that like to go down there to get away for a couple of days but is still close
  46. We are 7 time missouri camper award recipients and would really like to see more campgrounds with full hookups. It would allow us to stay on longer visits.
  47. So sites have a lot of amenities and some are rustic. It's great to have the different types to choose from. Bennett Springs and Ha Ha Tonka are my favorites since they're closer. Echo Bluff is amazing, however I would hate to see it happen to Ha Ha Tonka. Maybe Bennett Springs though.
  48. while i think it's important to promote tourism it's also important to maintain and uphold the integrity if the parks. it should always be question if the good means will have the desired end and if that ends will produce positive effects.
  49. while i think it's important to promote tourism it's also important to maintain and uphold the integrity if the parks. it should always be question if the good means will have the desired end and if that ends will produce positive effects.
  50. Some parks could use better trails. More family friendly.
  51. Some parks could use better trails. More family friendly.
  52. We love it for the many trails for hiking
  53. Continue good work we love visiting
  54. More camping!
  55. More camping!
  56. Better bathrooms and signs to describe historic significance, directions, etc.
  57. Better bathrooms and signs to describe historic significance, directions, etc.
  58. I'm thrilled with how the park look as is.
  59. Truman state Park. Live close by and love the visitor site. I would personally like to see more history info. Of the area.. Various civil war actions took place in the area. Indians have been in the area for thousands of years but don't know where, what their dwellings were like, nomadic? How did they care for their family that pass on?
  60. Everything is always very maintained and clean
  61. Would love to see information for weekend or day trips. We are a few hours drive, but aren't always thinking of these areas as we don't know what else is around making it worth the trip.
  62. Keep adding more.
  63. We love them all. It's really nice to have state parks available to visit and enjoy.
  64. Camping should be added to Public Beach 2 in Osage Beach
  65. Post the survey to Facebook/Twitter/IG to get more responses
  66. Just that y'all do a great job maintaining your parks and I always enjoy visiting them.

67. I think it would be awesome if there was a camping place
68. The cave and owl events are amazing. We visit 6 times a year. Which I felt was more than occasionally and less than monthly.
69. Resummerise the history of the park in a more modern fashion for younger generation to understand
70. I love our state park system.
71. Just hope to keep it a wonderful place to come visit.
72. I love the variety of opportunities to be outdoors in Missouri. I grew up here and it has always been a part of my life.
73. They're beautiful.
74. Don't close it.
75. I visit haha Tonka and many State Park attractions all the time and they usually are very packed with people we need more conservation areas. I would personally donate every week if it would open up more conservation land.
76. More restrooms.
77. It's very nice there! My family, friends and I love it!
78. Love them all!
79. I've said ot all already.
80. Love it very beautiful
81. Camping
82. Please leave Ha Ha Tonka alone.
83. Make it 420 friendly
84. Take care of them, they are beautiful & unique, don't let them fall to ruin when just a few repairs or additions can be made.  
Or thinking its good enough & not repairing trails or the thoughts of what we have left is enough on these trails & buildings.
85. Add more trails.
86. They are usually all clean and beautiful nature preservation sites to visit any time.
87. We love MO State Parks. I wish more campgrounds had full hookups
88. Most are up to snuff, some do need some work.
89. Haha tonka should be rebuilt to it's former glory and turned into a museum,
90. fewer improvements is better. do not turn them into suburbs. leave the wild places alone65867
91. Please preserve these beautiful historic sites so that generations of the future may enjoy them as they once were.
92. Love the maps provided by the park, and great signs through out trails, very helpful.
93. Trail markings generally are good but not always, which makes hiking difficult in fall with leaves covering the trails...if the trails have a lot of off shoots.
94. We love Ha Ha Tonka State Park and we go every single year to take photos of our children and grandchildren to see how they have grown compared to one particular tree that they stand by and to see differences in all family members and including how the tree has changed throughout the years
95. Most things are best left simpler
96. Your doing a wonderful job.
97. I'm a frequent visitor to Missouri state parks, historic sites, and wildernesses. This js one of my favorites because it is so family friendly. I support positive growth and improvements but hope that the site itself doesn't change much.
98. Leave Ha Ha Tonka natural and don't commercialize it. It is peaceful and beautiful there don't ruin it with "stuff". We go there to get away from the traffic and noise. If it is not broke don't fix it and it is not broke.
99. camping
100. They are well kept !!
101. More parking at Hawn State Park
102. No other comments. Ha Ha Tonka is my favorite park and I know something will need to happen to entice visitors if the house falls completely.

103. Please add mountain bike/bikepacking trails.
104. It's a great site but with all the inflow of people to Missouri now since the pandemic you need to expand. More parking. More camping. More trails
105. Keep up the great work! Amazing assets to the state.
106. As a mom of 2 young teen boys that also homeschools, it would be great for the parks to offer some truly family (of all aged kids) friendly activities/ classes to encourage families to get OUTSIDE as a family more often. And NOT just on weekends. Many families have to work weekends, so a weekday here and there would work well for those of us in that group.
107. I love MO State Parks! Thank you!
108. I love Missouri State Parks and am very satisfied with my previous experiences every time!
109. We visited the state park kayak rental this summer 2022 and were shocked at the kayak rental prices. We had five people ready to rent kayaks but it would have been over \$100 so we left. Please consider lower rental rates or lower group rates for three or more. Kayak rentals are not this much at other state and county rental locations in MO. We camped at Pomme de Terre this summer and we love how nice the sites are. But the brush and weeds in between campsites and along pathways needs to be cut more often. We rode our bikes around and tried to access some fishing spots along the shoreline and it's very overgrown. But the actual campsites here are large and very nice.
110. Thank you for keeping them clean.
111. Website needs updated. Reserving a campsite at any of the parks is a terrible experience. Navigating the reservation process is confusing and pictures of the campsites leave you guessing what the site looks like or how close your neighbor will be. Numerous parks need their campgrounds updated as well. Arkansas, Iowa, and Nebraska are making us look bad, and we have much better natural features. Missouri has some great parks, we should show that when people from out of state are looking to visit and camp.
112. Please maintain the parks we have now. The roads in some campgrounds are in poor condition
113. Improve the marking of hiking trails. More details on maps at trailhead and on line.
114. I enjoy cabin rentals where available. Might be able to get people to help clean up in trade for free passes. For example at parks where staff is available if turn in a bag of trash off the trail \$10 gift card or free bottle of soda or something like that.
115. Overall the park is always clean and well maintained when my family goes!
116. Protect the land at all cost
117. enjoy mo state parks and historic sites
118. SAVE THE BRUMLEY SWINGING BRIDGES... walking trails or bike path!
119. Not at this time.
120. We love history and being able to get outside in a safe and peaceful environment is what we are always drawn to.
121. Nothing except thank you!!
122. KATY trail needs updates
123. It is a beautiful place. I would like to keep it as natural as possible.
124. Please continue with upkeep and keep them open for future generations.
125. We have a great park system and the fact that we do not have entry fees is a point of pride for me as a state resident.
126. Keep them up!
127. D Road is a dangerous road. There is a lot of accidents & deaths from all the curves.
128. Generally I am satisfied with the way Missouri State parks are maintained, throughout the state.

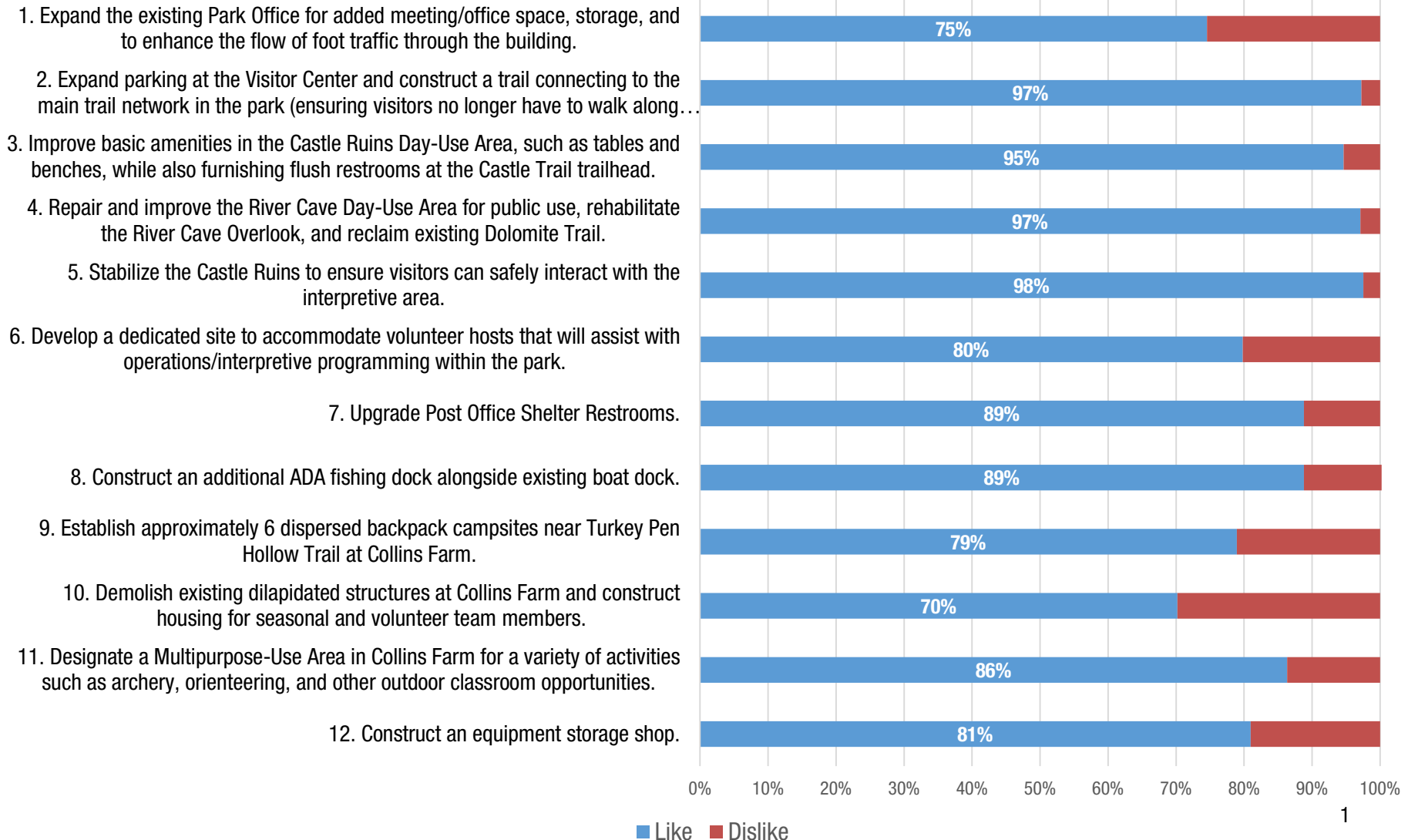
- 129.** We almost always choose state parks when booking campsites and would love for hahatonka to be our next destination
- 130.** I have been to every state park and historic site in Missouri, completed the 100th anniversary stamp backpack program and the Missouri Civil War stamp program. I Love our Missouri state parks and historic sites!!!!
- 131.** Offer a greater discount for disabled people.
- 132.** Don't sell out!
- 133.** Keep up the good work!! Thank you!
- 134.** We love our park system. Thank you for a fabulous system.
- 135.** Keep up the good work!
- 136.** Mountain Bike Trails!
- 137.** Need more hiking biking & other family activities
- 138.** More update bicycle trails/parks please.
- 139.** Get with the times!!
- 140.** Missouri really could do a better job at recreation in state parks. Arkansas and Nebraska put us to shame in the recreation department.
- 141.** Enjoy and appreciate all the state parks we visit. Noticing that adding food trucks, etc is adding to trash being thrown everywhere though.
- 142.** Keep them free for the public, that is such an amazing thing that the state has going for it!
- 143.** I think missouri has great parks
- 144.** Please don't build the Eleven Point State Park. Why do you want to develop every last wild place in Missouri? What would Thoreau say? That the Eleven Point River would be improved with more pavement, wi-fi and people. If you all truly love nature like I do, then please, leave it alone.
- 145.** More programs to involve senior citizens. Perhaps bus tours taking seniors to "out of the way" parks and historic sites. Could even have overnight lodging for a 2-3 day trip from one of our larger cities. I would love this type of

experience with a guide knowledgeable who could interpret along the way.

- 146.** Please provide better staffing levels for our parks. The staffing seems to be the bare minimum everywhere we travel.



## Proposed Development Survey Results:



## Do you have any comments or suggestions regarding Ha Ha Tonka State Park?

1. It is an awesome park maybe camping area.
2. Hold on to integrity.
3. Small campground would be nice. Re-introduce trout to the springs.
4. Love the park.
5. Please keep the main castle, tower, and stable so everyone from now and into the future always.
6. Have the stairs been upgraded and/or checked for safety on the Spring Trail?
7. My dad was very instrumental in making this a state park and historic site. He was asst director of state parks. Robert Haake.
8. Possibly construct restrooms up closer to the ruins?
9. Elevator from spring to castle.
10. It's one of my favorite state parks, and I'm so happy to see the investment going into it!
11. Please add bike parking, but do not add any more parking for cars--there is already too much.
12. Swimming.
13. Would love to be able to walk through castle ruins, use drones for photography and have a better way to use as an event venue.
14. Allow for swimming in the springs!
15. Develop a swimming area.
16. Have more information on those that once worked there and were the settlers in are. Such as the Bell Farm and farm land. How most of the Ha Ha Tonka workers established Spencer's Creek such as the Jones Family.
17. Please allow swimming in the springs. I have only heard glorious tales of when this was allowed from my father and his friends :- /
18. Could use some TSI throughout some of the park.
19. Add a dining lodge with superior food and wine.
20. Love Ha Ha Tonka. Any improvements would be appreciated.
21. Taking the rocks out of the natural bridge was a bad call
22. Beautiful park, I'd love to see Missouri invest in Ha Ha Tonka.
23. No.
24. Being from this original area, I think there should not be any camping sites. I believe it would take away the magic of this place — and not every state park or historic state site like Ha Ha Tonka needs camping areas. I feel as though that's what makes it unique. It stands out from so many others. The trails and castle, along with the spring are beautiful areas that always leave people feeling appreciated and always wanting to come back. The trees and overall natural setup included should remain untouched by campfires and tents.
25. Hope you preserve as much of the ruins as possible. It's a beautiful place.
26. It would be nice to have a beach area near the fishing/boating dock.
27. I've been to Ha Ha twice this year and love the trails, keep them accessible please. They don't need as much wood decking, let them be dirt paths.
28. Trim brush back more from trails to help minimize contact with hikers and tick transfer.
29. The best part of Ha Ha Tonka is the rustic nature and surroundings, so you can envision what it was like way back when. Tour guides and park workers take away from the serene nature.
30. Love the park.
31. No.
32. Stabilize the castle and provide an interpretive path that interacts with the castle, but either protects original elements or utilizes areas that can absorb high traffic. Utilize interpretation that doesn't require physical guide. Look into QR codes that link to constructed recordings or videos for the history. The man who built the castle should be highlighted.
33. No.
34. All of the items are good as long as they don't damage the existing site and don't take away from the historical value.

35. Renting kayaks is problematic. Because of the office. And nowhere to rent kayak to other than Spencer creek. Maybe make trails for kayaker's too. And the boats that run why too fast just outside of the park is problematic and unsafe.
36. I love the castle. And miss not being able to get closer or see the back fountain.
37. No.
38. It needs to remain as natural as possible.
39. While backpacking sites will be wonderful at this park, I wonder if a loop of basic tent camping sites with a bathhouse may ever be in future plans.
40. The park is beautiful and amazing.
41. Make the Castle A safe place to touch and explore up close like at Elephant Rocks State Park. You can explore ruins.
42. This is my favorite park in MO.
43. Don't let the castle fall into ruin.
44. We miss getting to take pictures on or closer to the structure. More benches along trails.

### **Do you have comments or suggestions regarding Missouri state parks and historic sites?**

1. Camping area.
2. Do not destroy or "improve".
3. Love them!
4. No.
5. Be sure there is adequate places for handicap use.
6. Preserve and restore don't destroy.
7. Keep up the great work.
8. No, thank you.
9. Please focus less on cars and parking as a requirement to access state parks. Please consider alternatives such as investing in regional bus service, so everyone (even people who do not own

cars) can access Missouri State Parks. Please read more information from parks in other states that make outdoor areas accessible without having to drive there: <https://usa.streetsblog.org/2023/07/20/making-hiking-accessible-without-cars>

10. Have information about the area.
11. Keep structures stable and for all to see. Don't make things fancy to compete with top of the rock, nature lovers just want nature.
12. Protect Ha Ha Tonka and spare no expense. It's the best state park in the country!
13. Have in place stories of the place such as the Madam of the house having a parrot that would communicate with another lady down the cove. The ladies used it as a means of communication. My Grandfather worked the Post Office, Ha Ha To is stables and built the private dock. He had so many stories.
14. I like them.
15. More group sites/special-use areas for youth groups and scouts to tent camp.
16. I'd like to see parks develop access along Taney Como. They own property along the river but don't have much access.
17. Nope, you have my full support. I'd pay more in taxes to support Missouri parks.
18. No.
19. Love them all! Keep them open.
20. Keep it natural. Putting concrete sidewalks, and a bunch of parking lots take away from nature .
21. No.
22. More platform sites. They are wonderful, but more are needed and the marketing is awful for these. This is how people trial camping before becoming addicted. Maybe partner with REI for exclusive coupons after utilizing a platform site.
23. I absolutely love Missouri's state park system, one thing I absolutely love is that Missouri parks are free to visit and I hope that this will be able to continue so that all can enjoy these beautiful parks and historic sites!
24. Keep construction to a minimum. Nature is what people want.

25. Historic sites. Should remain historic. To much history is being wiped out. Updates yes. Are needed.
26. Keep up the good work!
27. I pay a fee in other states to enter their parks. If it helps our parks, I think we should charge out of state visitors a fee.
28. More trash cans in ALL state parks. Especially at Taum Sauk.
29. Open for all uses, bicycle to ATV to horses to hikers.
30. No.
31. Very nice.
32. Thank you for Missouri State Parks.
33. Love the ones I've been to visit.
34. More shaded areas along the trails. Preserve the parks.
35. More/better merch.
36. The preservation of these sites are always important. Thanks for requesting public input!
37. We love Ha Ha Tonka. Very happy to read improvements/expansions being considered.
38. Some historic reenactments would be fun to see and bring family too.
39. You are doing a great job keep it up. My family and myself has always enjoy every park we have been to.
40. Add more public swimming beaches at Lake of the Ozarks please.
41. I think you are doing great job.
42. Our parks are very much needed and appreciated.
43. More information on historical sites promoted on social media.
44. I love our state parks! Keep up the great work!
45. No.
46. More flush toilets with easy to use cleaning hoses so we can help clean up after the disrespectful people who poops everywhere.
47. Expand camping with at least electric hookups, dump station, and shower house.
48. Please continue to care for and preserve our parks.
49. Do anything and everything to preserve history
50. Missouri is a beautiful state! My husband and I thoroughly enjoy the hiking and history here.

51. The park system and its employees are a gem! Keep up the good work!
52. My family enjoys all state parks and love when any and all improvements are made!
53. Love them!
54. We love the convenience of the check-in process at campgrounds. Also, love that it is free to enter all of Missouri's state parks.
55. No.
56. No.
57. Bennett spring needs more washers and dryers & a playground in loop 400 or 500.
58. We really need to get the rock island trail finished!
59. No.
60. We love to camp in MO parks- Continue to upgrade WIFI for all of the parks, please.
61. Historical preservation is a priority.
62. Charge an admission fee. It would help with maintaining the parks.
63. No.
64. Keep them as they are .
65. Continue with the maintenance and upkeep work.
66. My family and I enjoy our state parks!
67. Grew up being dragged around many MO State Parks, now I do the same to my kids. Thankful they are free and pretty amazing. Adding QR codes with info is a great way to connect with younger generations. Makes info easy on the go. When you have service. It is a double edged sword. Thank you for all you have done to bring memories to so many families for so many years.
68. Love them, and I am appreciative that we have these available. Thank you, Missouri and all the individuals that make these sites and parks available for the public!!
69. Stop being SOS restrictive.
70. Please keep up the great work improving and parks and historical sites.
71. Some of the prettiest well maintained parks in US.

72. NA.
73. Missouri needs more 2 day hiking trails with primitive camping sites.
74. Bring back the passport stamps. That was so much fun!
75. No.
76. No.
77. Camping spots.
78. You guys are doing a great job!
79. No.
80. Thank you for not requiring payment/stickers, keeping nature easily accessible.
81. Just keep them beautiful .
82. Keep doing what you are doing! So proud of conservation work here in my home state!
83. Well kept.
84. Pay your Naturalists more! They're teaching your next generation of rec users :) (-an MDC naturalist who makes more than your naturalists).
85. Please see comment above.
86. Thank you for preserving history.
87. None.
88. Love Mo State parks.
89. No.
90. Missouri State Parks and historic sites are the best in the US.
91. No.
92. Enjoy visiting them all & seeing their improvements.
93. Just keep the historic parts.
94. Love.
95. More small cabins / chalet style with upstairs bedrooms / with covered front porches high in park with lake overlook / with built in BBQ grills / kitchenette / see River of Life Farm treehouse designs / these would be great somewhere in the hills at Ha Ha Tonka Develop Current River State Park with Multiple Treehouse Cabins in the bluff / tear down existing cabins / open the grounds as a campground and develop / I do NOT like the resort style lodging done at Echo Bluff / I like basic 2 bedroom /

- 2 bath cabins like some at Bennet Springs state park. / It would be so nice to have the fronts of cabins at many parks facing views with a fire pit and BBQ grill for each cabin in front of the front porch of the cabin.
96. Ryan Dunwoody is da bomb as the planning section manager! Keep up the great work.
97. No.
98. Please install and/or update the WIFI at each campground.
99. No.
100. No.
101. I like that the area is being considered for upgrading and improvements.
102. No.
103. Love roaring state park and hope you can keep the roads intact after floods.
104. N/A.
105. More first-come sites.
106. More funding from legislature for state parks. We travel a lot. Missouri is behind other states.
107. Always keep them. Nice places to walk and meet for family days. Painted rock conservation area steep hill road really needs an upgrade or refigured as caused issues with my car trying to drive back up that very steep hill.
108. More backpack trails like Bell Mountain but more beautiful and less steep all the way through. We need those longer treks.
109. Some site need more camping accessories since by the start of the New Year they are booked up.
110. They have all been a big part of my whole life.
111. Missouri State parks are our preferred camping sites along with day usage areas. More interactive learning experiences at the historical sites would be great. More learning activities at the campgrounds would be great. Van Meter has started a nice one. We have also had activities for the kids in the past but the last several years they have been hard to find.
112. Keep as natural as possible.
113. No.

- 114.** LEAVE ALL THE STATE PARKS & HISTORIC SITES AS THEY ARE! THERE ARE GHOSTS & SPIRITS IN THE HISTORIC SITES, YOU WILL BE INVADING ON THEM. THEY WILL BE ANGRY.
- 115.** Nope.
- 116.** We love Missouri state parks and historic sites.
- 117.** Leave it alone and let nature do what it does best.
- 118.** You do a great job maintaining state parks and the history that is such a huge part of each for them.
- 119.** Please use Missouri companies when making improvements if 3rd party vendors are needed. Allow food trucks to be in parking lots on certain days so people can grab lunch or dinner and enjoy the parks.
- 120.** Create more intimate lodging with a main visitor center lobby for gathering. Not big or corporate like.
- 121.** No.
- 122.** Keep up the good work.
- 123.** We really enjoy having the beautiful state parks that we have here in Missouri. We have an RV and find most of the parks very accommodating to those of us that enjoy spending time in nature.
- 124.** No.
- 125.** Get Wi-Fi or cell service to every park so people can visit while working remotely.
- 126.** Overall you do a great job. We stay in other state parks on vacation and Missouri outdoes most of them!
- 127.** Growing up in Missouri and going to the parks, now returning for vacations every year, we prefer the places that have not been upgraded or over built. We look for the parks and the historic sites that are closest as a whole to the way they would have looked originally or at least when first turned into a Park. The Hall of Waters would be absolutely amazing to see hooked back up to all of its different mineral springs. That's a place I could see myself bringing the family yearly if the local spring water was actually available to swim/drink/visit the wells that have been capped.
- 128.** Keep up the good work!

- 129.** A bit more parking and monitoring of parking spaces near the ruins.
- 130.** No.
- 131.** You do a great job keeping our parks beautiful!
- 132.** No.
- 133.** After having visited all state parks & historic sites, some of the historic sites could use picnic tables, etc.
- 134.** These are all valuable resources .
- 135.** More enforcement! People need to stay on the trails in the more popular areas (Cathedral) and not continue to tear things up.
- 136.** Keep up the good work! The State Parks we have visited are great!
- 137.** More inclusive for all, including differing abilities, races, ethnicities, religions, and more.
- 138.** Keep the history of it add more info on some of the old buildings for everyone to read and look at.
- 139.** None.
- 140.** I love this place.
- 141.** Prosecute those that deface structures and trees.
- 142.** Just keep them safe
- 143.** My family loves visiting the parks system! Thank you for all that you do!
- 144.** We are blessed with our many wonderful state parks and treasured historic sites ♥